

Israelis train drug hit squads

TEL AVIV (AP) — The Israeli foreign ministry issued a statement Wednesday saying any Israelis who may be training hit squads for Colombian drug cartels were acting on their own in violation of the law and contrary to policy. The statement came a day after NBC news in the United States screened a film purportedly showing training for drug cartel assassins at a secret base in Colombia and said some of the trainers were Israeli and South Africans. In the film, shown on government-run Israel Television Tuesday, one man pictured in a group wearing fatigues could be heard speaking Hebrew, saying it was a "good exercise" and everything went well. In 1984, three Israelis were charged in the attempted kidnapping of ex-Nigerian Transport Minister Ousama Dikko, who was found inside a crate at a London airport. Israel denied involvement and published reports said the operation had been arranged with the help of Israeli businessmen who have close ties in Africa.

Jordan Times

An independent political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية «الراي»

U.N. begins talks with Iraq, Iran

GENEVA (R) — The United Nations began two days of talks with Iraq and Iran Wednesday in an effort to revive stalled attempts to achieve a permanent peace settlement. U.N. special envoy Jan Eliasson held an initial evening meeting with Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq al-Riyadhi and Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammad Hossein Lavasani, U.N. officials said. His aims to lay the groundwork for talks U.N. secretary-general Javier Perez de Cuellar will have in early September with the countries' foreign ministers during a non-aligned summit in Belgrade. The two sides ended eight years of fighting a little more than a year ago but have accomplished little in the few rounds of talks they have held. The last ministerial talks were in Geneva in April.

Volume 14 Number 4169

AMMAN THURSDAY-FRIDAY, AUGUST 24-25, 1989, MUHARRAM 22-23, 1410

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

'Cosmetic' hijack ends in Algeria

ALGIERS (Agencies) — An unarmed Algerian emigre said he took over an Air France passenger flight from Paris to Algiers with a piece of soap and a perfume spray bottle to call attention to "the need to end violence in Lebanon and Palestine."

The plane's pilot, Joseph Valat, said the plane landed in Algiers, its original destination, after airports in Tunis, Tunisia and in Annaba and Constantine, in Algeria, refused permission to put the aircraft down.

In a statement at Algiers' Houari Boumedienne airport, the hijacker called for "the holding of an international conference on Lebanon, the opening of a dialogue between the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Israel and the liberation of all hostages and prisoners in the region."

Algerian police identified the hijacker as Said Jamel, alias Bendada, and said he was a 30-year-old merchant in Paris.

The French news agency Agence France-Presse, citing unidentified sources in Paris, said the man was being expelled for "violating public order," and said he "displayed great agitation" before being put on the flight to Algiers.

An Air France spokeswoman, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the hijacking ended at 3:25 p.m. (1425 GMT), barely an hour after the plane landed. She said the 102 passengers and 13 members of the crew were all safe and sound.

The hijacker, allowed to make a statement before being taken for questioning, showed reporters a small piece of soap and a perfume bottle which he identified as his only "weapons."

The pilot, in a brief statement, said the hijacker had a big object under his jacket to give the appearance of a weapon and that he made known he was capable of blowing up the plane.

Captain Vallat said Jamel sent a written message to the cockpit then told the crew he was carrying a bomb which could blow up the plane.

It was only after the hijacking that the young Algerian revealed the bulge in his clothing was in fact a plastic bag of toiletries.

"He was very well-dressed, very well-educated. I asked him to come to the cockpit, but he never wanted to come. He never moved," Vallat told reporters.

Jamel was described by French radio as "mentally deranged."

The unarmed hijacker gave himself up at Algiers after brief negotiations with Algerian officials and police and was escorted down the plane's steps.

Before being taken away by police, Jamel calmly told reporters he had originally planned to force the plane to fly to the eastern Algerian port of Annaba (formerly Bone) but changed his mind and ordered it to return to Algiers.

News of the hijack fuelled speculation that it had been mounted by a Middle East group angered by a French decision to send a naval task force to Lebanon.

The Algerian news agency earlier reported that the hijacker had called for an international conference on Lebanon.



King visits army units in south

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein, the supreme commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces, said Wednesday that the Arab Army, the holder of the Great Arab Revolt's message and the defender of its goals and objectives, stands alongside the confrontation lines in the face of challenges and dangers threatening the Arab Order.

Addressing troops stationed in the southern military region, the King stressed the armed

forces' "role in defending the homeland and protecting our economic achievements."

The King also underlined the role of the Armed Forces in the process of building and development.

The King was received upon arrival at the unit by the commander of the southern military region and the commanders of various units and formations.

Israelis storm Gaza hospital

JERUSALEM (Agencies) — More than 30 Israeli soldiers forced their way into Ahl Arab hospital in Gaza City Wednesday in pursuit of stone-throwers, prompting complaints to Western embassies and a sit-down strike by Palestinian hospital workers.

Meanwhile, Israeli police rounded up 170 Arab labourers from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip who were caught sleeping in Israel in violation of rules that prohibit them staying overnight, Israel radio reported.

The labourers were released Wednesday morning, the radio said. Most of the arrests took place in the Galilee region in the north and two coastal towns, police said.

The unusual rash of arrests follows new regulations instituted last Friday that require Palesti-

nians to have special computerised identity cards to enter Israel from the Gaza Strip.

On Wednesday, a Scottish doctor performed an autopsy on the body of Amjad Jibril Tawil, a 14-year-old Palestinian-American whose body was found with a single bullet wound last week in the West Bank town of Al Birah.

The independent autopsy by Dr. Derrick Pounder was requested by the family, which said that the boy was in Israeli army custody before he was found dead. Pounder represents the Boston-based Physicians for Human Rights. Tawil was born in Denver, Colorado.

The government earlier performed its own autopsy, and the army announced Israeli forces were not involved in Tawil's death.

The incident at Ahl Arab hos-

pital began when soldiers forced their way onto the hospital grounds behind an ambulance, said a hospital official who asked not to be identified by name.

"They (the soldiers) treated our staff in a bad way, especially in the emergency room, hitting people with their rifle butts and pushing them with their hands," the official said.

She said soldiers ran through the wards, including the children's wing, "scaring them terribly."

The official said the soldiers detained four Palestinians doing construction with stones and cement at the adjacent nursing school, run by the American Baptist Mission. The four later were freed, she said.

Three West Bank families ended a 20-year-old blood feud with a public reconciliation Wednesday for the sake of the uprising.

At a ceremony arranged by Palestinian nationalist leader Faisal Hussein, the families from the Hebron area announced they had agreed to forego revenge against Arabs who in 1969 killed seven of their relatives mistakenly suspected of collaborating with Israel.

The men were released from an Israeli prison two weeks ago after serving lengthy sentences.

"In honour of our heroes of the stones, in honour of this blessed intifada and in response to the appeal of the Unified National Leadership, we decided to give a general pardon and to forego our material and tribal rights until the day of judgement," said Ali Milhem, head of one of the families.

The highly-publicised reconciliation ceremony was held at an Arab Jerusalem hotel.

Balloons for monitoring

The Israeli army may use spy balloons to monitor activity in Palestinian refugee camps in the occupied West Bank, Israeli newspapers reported Wednesday.

The newspapers said Israeli army chiefs were considering placing balloons fitted with remote control television cameras over the camps.

The new commander in the West Bank, Major General Yitzhak Mordechai, is considering stationing balloons above all 22 West Bank camps to beam pictures to observers on the ground, the Maariv daily said.

Lebanese front warns France

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon's Syrian-backed militia threatened Wednesday to attack French naval forces due off Lebanon in the next 24 hours.

"The National Front has decided to deal with any French presence off our shores as a military target," said the coalition of leftist groups which accuse France of siding with the rightist Christians in Lebanon's conflict.

In a bid to defuse a brewing crisis over the ships, France's Ambassador to Lebanon Rene Ala said the eight-ship fleet would not intervene militarily in the country's five month battles.

French President Francois Mitterrand said in Paris that no one would be allowed to dictate French action in Lebanon.

"No country or group has the right to dictate what France should do as far as Lebanon is concerned," Mitterrand told a cabinet meeting.

The National Front, which includes Walid Junblatt's Progressive Socialist Party (PSP), Shi'ite Muslim leader Nabih Berri's Amal militia, the Communist Party and others said:

"We vehemently reject France's audacious violation of Lebanese sovereignty and its humiliation of the Lebanese people. We hold France completely responsible for any aggression... our fighters will confront it with force."

"Let the French people remember their victims in Beirut," it added, referring to a 1983 truck-bomb attack by pro-Iranian Lebanese on French forces in which some 58 paratroopers were

killed in west Beirut.

The eight-strong French fleet, including the 24,000-tonne aircraft carrier Foch, was expected off Lebanon Wednesday night or Thursday.

"I can't imagine that the Foch will be targeted. Its mission is not provocative. It has no military significance," Ala told reporters after meeting army chief Major-General Michel Aoun.

"Military intervention is not even remotely possible. We do not believe in a military solution for Lebanon," Ala said.

In an interview with the French daily France-Soir, Aoun said that in the past two months, he has received "little munitions from Iraq as well as from France."

The French foreign ministry denied shipping arms to Lebanon. A spokesman in Paris said: "The only authorised deliveries to Lebanon are of spare parts in limited quantities for material of French origin."

The European Community's (EC) foreign ministers, meanwhile, called for an immediate ceasefire, and announced that they would dispatch a fact-finding mission to Beirut in the next few days.

In a statement issued in France, the current EC president, the ministers said the situation in Lebanon was "fraught with danger," and "urgently appealed to all parties to cease all gunfire and bombing on land and sea and all forms of blockade."

Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, president of the United Arab Emirates, was called for an emergency Arab summit to assign

Arab peacekeeping troops to Lebanon, the Al Hawadess weekly reported Wednesday.

"If Lebanon collapses, that will be the end of the Arab League," Zayed said in an interview with the London-based weekly which was circulated by the UAE's official WAM news agency.

The EC ministers expressed continuing support for the tripartite committee of the Arab League that has been charged with seeking a ceasefire and political solution to the 14-year-old Lebanese civil war.

Arab League committee members King Hassan II of Morocco, King Fahd of Saudi Arabia and Algerian President Chadli Benjedid on Aug. 16 issued a call for "an immediate and global" ceasefire. The appeal came about two weeks after the committee announced that their second effort this year to mediate a solution had come to "a dead end in both political and security fields."

The European ministers called on the Arab leaders "to resume their peace mission."

"This mission, as illustrated by the work of the committee, is in accordance with the objectives of national reconciliation and restoration of Lebanese sovereignty within the framework of renewed institutions, objectives to which the twelve have constantly given their support," the statement said.

The ministers said they were determined to intensify their action to relieve the suffering of the Lebanese population and contribute to reestablishing "the nor-

mal conditions of existence and to the resumption of economic and social activities."

To that end, the ministers said they would "in the next few days send an on the spot needs assessment mission."

"In the light of the findings of the mission the community and its member states will consider the appropriate measures."

Syrian troops and allies clashed sporadically with Aoun's forces in and around Beirut, marring an informal ceasefire that followed an Aug. 15 call by the U.N. Security Council for an end to the five-month-old bloodshed.

Police reported one person was killed and 15 were wounded. That raised the casualty toll to 790 killed and 2,205 wounded since March 8.

A Syrian official said Wednesday the Soviet Union agreed with Syria's aim of keeping arms from reaching warring parties.

He said that in talks between Soviet envoy Genadi Tarasov and Foreign Minister Farouq Al Sharaf "view points were identical on the necessity of forming a committee to monitor the ceasefire, lift the blockades and prevent the entry of arms supplies to the Lebanese parties."

Tarasov, a personal representative of Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, arrived in the Syrian capital Tuesday.

"View points were identical on supporting the tripartite Arab committee to implement the Casablanca (Arab summit) resolutions as a package for solving the Lebanese crisis," the Syrian official said.

Human chain across Baltics

RIGA (R) — Church bells rang out across the Baltic republics Wednesday as hundreds of thousands of people linked hands to mark the 50th anniversary of a Nazi-Soviet pact which snuffed out their independence.

At the stroke of 7 p.m. (1600 GMT), crowds gathered in the centre of the Latvian capital formed into a line which extended more than 300 kilometres either way to the capitals of neighbouring Estonia and Latvia.

For 15 minutes, men, women and children singing the Latvian national anthem stood with arms linked in the most dramatic demonstration to date of a nationalist revival which has swept all three Baltic republics over the past year.

A spokesman for Sajudis, a radical Lithuanian mass movement which helped organise the chain, told Reuters from the capital, Vilnius, later that an estimated one million people had taken part in the protest in Lithuania alone.

Demonstrations were also scheduled for the south-western Republic of Moldova, which was also seized by the Soviet Union from Romania under the 1939 pact, local activists said.

A small but raucous demonstration in central Moscow to back the Baltic states' drive for freedom turned violent Wednesday as security forces waving long black batons waded into the crowd.

The "Spetsnaz" troopers were backed by water cannon and trucks of reserve forces parked discreetly in side alleys to contain several hundred demonstrators.

Rows of police manned metal barricades which cordoned off the streets around Pushkin Square, a favourite protest site before the "glasnost" or openness, policy of the current Kremlin leadership.

The crowd waved the pre-war flags of the independent Baltic republics and carried signs denouncing the secret Nazi-Soviet pact which led to the region's annexation by Moscow.

The Kremlin last week finally acknowledged the existence of the secret protocols.

Khartoum extends southern ceasefire

KHARTOUM (Agencies) — Sudan's military government will extend a unilateral ceasefire in the six-year-old civil war for another month, a senior official said in remarks published Wednesday.

Brigadier Dominic Kasiano was quoted by the armed forces newspaper as saying that the ceasefire renewal showed the government's "good intentions" towards the rebels despite failure of the first round of peace talks between the two sides last weekend.

Whether the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) would continue to hold its fire, as it has since last April, was questionable.

Kasiano said that the government, which took office after a military coup June 30, "has shown good intent of seeking to halt the bloodshed and find a durable and comprehensive solution to the question of southern Sudan."

He said the ceasefire would be extended until the end of September.

Sudanese and Arab diplomatic sources said the military had wanted the weekend Addis Ababa peace talks to succeed to help offset growing domestic discon-

Tutu gassed

CAPE TOWN (Agencies) — Police fired teargas Wednesday at thousands of anti-apartheid activists, including Archbishop Desmond Tutu, as political unrest worsened in black and mixed-race townships outside Cape Town.

Several columns of black smoke from burning street barricades could be seen across the densely populated Cape Flats, northeast of the city centre. Police headquarters reported clashes between officers and stone-throwing crowds in at least seven communities.

The unrest has continued almost unabated for more than three weeks, coinciding with the launch of a nationwide defiance campaign organised by major anti-apartheid groups. The Cape Town area has been by far the most troubled area in the country, experiencing the most sustained series of confrontations in two years.

Tutu, leader of the Anglican church in southern Africa, tried to mediate between police officials and protesting youths in the black township of Guguletu.

The archbishop had persuaded the youths to call off a planned march from a high school to a police station, and instead arranged for a small delegation to go to the station to present various grievances.

But police fired teargas at Tutu and about 1,000 other people as they emerged from a church where the archbishop had been reporting on the latest developments.

Police also used teargas on several thousand marchers at the University of the Western Cape. Teargas was fired at the marchers, who included teachers, students and workers, as they reached the main gate of the campus, leading out to a highway. The marchers carried placards supporting the defiance campaign and criticising police action against activists.

Organisers said further protests were planned to oppose the visit to South Africa by an international rugby team, which activists say is undermining the sports boycott imposed to protest apartheid.

Mazowiecki committed to more Communist ministries

WARSAW (Agencies) — Prime Minister-designate Tadeusz Mazowiecki committed himself Wednesday to giving the Communist Party more than two ministries in his Solidarity-led government, saying anything less could cause serious tensions.

The parliament, where Solidarity delegates have combined with two minor parties long allied with the Communists to form a new coalition, was scheduled to meet Wednesday and vote Thursday on the prime minister's nomination.

The Communists, who already had been promised control of the army and police with the key ministries of defence and interior, had threatened in a Central Committee statement Sunday to withhold support for Mazowiecki unless it was given a number of

government posts that "correspond to its state and political potential."

"The Communist Party in total negotiation would be a trap for the country," Mazowiecki said Wednesday. "There is no opposition in the world which at the same time has the army and security services and remains the opposition."

"Our new partners must not feel like secondary partners," Mazowiecki said during his first meeting with the Solidarity parliament caucus since being nominated prime minister Saturday by Communist President Wojciech Jaruzelski.

Mazowiecki did not say how many government ministries would be offered to the Communists, or to Solidarity and the two minor parties. He said he

plans to present a government within a week.

Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev told Polish Communist Party leader Mieczyslaw Rakowski during a 45-minute telephone call Tuesday that Poland could not solve its pressing problems without the party's participation.

Gorbachev told Rakowski he was confident the party would solve Poland's political and economic problems "in the interest of the Polish nation and socialism," party spokesman Jan Bistzyga said.

"A conviction was expressed that without the participation of the (Polish) Communist Party it is not possible to solve Poland's problems," Bistzyga said. He described the conversation as friendly.

Solidarity, which was relegal-

ised in April after a seven-year ban imposed after martial law was imposed in 1981, has sought to ally concern in Moscow by saying it will not pull Poland out of the Warsaw Pact military alliance.

Mazowiecki reiterated Wednesday he understands Poland's "geographic place" and that it belongs to the Warsaw Pact alliance.

Once his government is formed, Mazowiecki, editor of Solidarity's weekly newspaper and longtime ally of union leader Lech Walesa, will have to tackle Poland's tremendous economic problems. They include a \$39-billion foreign debt, severe shortages of even basic foods and goods and a decaying infrastruc-

في الأمل

Khamenei rules out shift in foreign policy

NICOSIA (Agencies) — Iran's new spiritual leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei has poured cold water on speculations that the new leadership in Tehran would adopt a more flexible foreign policy to end the country's international isolation.

State-run Tehran Radio, monitored in Nicosia, Tuesday quoted Khamenei as saying: "We must preserve our revolutionary-Islamic stances in a firm manner and without vesting hopes in some of the false hope-inspiring faces."

The remark underscored differences between Khamenei and the newly elected president, Hashemi Rafsanjani, over the future path of the Islamic revolution following Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's death June 3.

A reputed pragmatist, Rafsanjani is seeking more private investment and links with the West to obtain the technology and financing to rebuild the economy, shattered by eight years of war with Iraq.

Khamenei, who was appointed supreme leader following Khomeini's death, is believed to back Rafsanjani on many domestic issues.

But a tough statement by the spiritual leader last week, ruling out any negotiations with the United States over the fate of 16 Western hostages held in Lebanon by pro-Iranian extremists, reflected differences over foreign policy.

Addressing Foreign Ministry officials and Iranian ambassadors in Tehran for consultations, Khamenei said Tuesday: "Arrogant powers like the U.S. and its allies are not only against Islam, but religion itself."

He stressed the need to "adopt Islamic positions in forging our country's foreign policy... our foreign policy will not change in the future and we will continue with the same policy as before."

Almost simultaneously, a heated argument broke out at a regular parliament session when the so-called hardliners sharply attacked an editorial published Monday in the conservative newspaper Ettelaat.

The Farsi-language daily newspaper suggested that many of

Iran's economic woes were due to the hostility and anti-West slogans in the early days of the revolution which toppled the monarchy in 1979.

One parliamentarian shouted that the writer of the editorial in the daily paper was "a new Salman Rushdie," a reference to the Indian-born, British author of the novel "The Satanic Verses."

Khomeini has called on Muslims to kill Rushdie for blaspheming Islam in his book. The call in February touched off a feud with the West, and later led to a break in London-Tehran ties.

Another representative said: "No one will ever be allowed to take a step against the line of the imam (Khomeini)." The man then shouted "Death to America" three times, with other parliamentarians joining in.

Tehran Radio aired the parliament session live. There was no, however, to identify the parliamentarians who made the comments.

"Even if Ettelaat toils for 10 years, it will not be able to wash away this article," a third parliamentarian said.

The session was chaired by Hojatoleslam Mehdi Karrubi, who succeeded Rafsanjani as speaker of the 270-seat parliament earlier this month after Rafsanjani was elected president.

Rafsanjani last Saturday submitted his 22-member cabinet to parliament for the required vote of confidence.

Missing from the proposed list were key heavyweights like outgoing Interior Minister Ali Akbar Mohtashemi, Rafsanjani's main opponent.

The parliamentary debate over the new ministers is scheduled to start Saturday, and Rafsanjani is expected to face tough criticism of his choice.

Meanwhile, Rafsanjani, whose executive powers have been considerably boosted after constitutional amendments this month eliminated the post of prime minister, has acknowledged that his choice of aides has drawn criticism, but showed no signs of bowing to pressure.

On Tuesday he appointed Hamid Mirzadeh, 39, as his third vice-president for executive affairs. Mirzadeh is deputy prime minister for executive affairs in the outgoing cabinet of Prime Minister Hussein Musavi.

Mirzadeh, the Islamic Republic News Agency reported, has a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Tehran University and a master's degree from Tehran's polytechnic college in engineering and polymer.

In his appointments, Rafsanjani has introduced moderate, educated technocrats rather than ideologically committed revolutionaries.

He has appointed Hassan Habibi, a French-trained former justice minister, his first vice-president. He also has named Ayatollah Mohajeri, a former deputy prime minister, as vice-president for judicial and parliamentary affairs.

Britain rejects offer

Britain Tuesday rejected a conditional Iranian offer to restore diplomatic links broken during the Rushdie affair, saying Tehran was interfering in its internal affairs.

"We do want normal relations, but we will not accept Iranian intervention in our internal affairs," a Foreign Office spokesman said. "Before relations can improve, Iran must be seen to abide by international norms of behaviour."

The Iranian deputy foreign minister, Mahmoud Vaezi, was quoted by IRNA Tuesday as saying Iran was ready to restore ties at once if Britain showed respect for Islamic values.

Vaezi was quoted as saying Britain must "convince members of the Majlis (parliament) that its intentions are genuinely motivated and it will be willing to respect Islamic values and principles."

But the Foreign Office spokesman said: "If Iran wants to improve relations, it is for her to make the first move."



Lebanese troops loyal to the civilian government of Salim Al Hoss train on Soviet-made tanks

AUB to stay despite continuing violence

By John Rice
The Associated Press

AMMAN — The American University of Beirut (AUB) acting president said Tuesday the prestigious academic institute will never move out of the Lebanese capital despite the fighting that has forced it to suspend classes for more than five months.

"It will not exist anywhere else," Dr. Ibrahim Salti said. AUB President Dr. Frederick P. Herter is based in New York, because Lebanon remains off limits for Americans. Scores of Westerners have been kidnapped or assassinated in the Lebanese capital in recent years.

Salti, a Jordanian physician, now handles administration in Beirut.

In an interview with the Associated Press, Salti said that "it would take decades" to reproduce the facilities AUB enjoys on its 73-acre seaside campus in Beirut.

And he said that in the 123 years since it was founded by Presbyterian missionaries, "a close symbiotic relationship" has developed with Beirut that makes the city and campus "inseparable."

The school, which has educated many of the Arab World's most prominent figures throughout the past century, was forced to suspend classes in March when heavy shelling erupted between Syrians and their allies in west Beirut and the largely Christian army of Michel Aoun in east Beirut.

Salti said that in that period 70 shells have hit the tree-shaded campus that houses 80 red-roofed stone buildings near commercial districts in west Beirut.

But he said most of the damage was "superficial," and said none of the staff or 5,300 students had been killed — largely because classes were not in session.

He said the university's 421-bed hospital and medical school have continued to operate, although a shortage of nurses has cut its capacity by one-third. The American University Hospital (AUH) is by far Lebanon's largest and most sophisticated medical center.

Before the outbreak of the civil war in 1975, AUH was the most popular center in the Middle East, with patients flying there for treatment from all over the Middle East.

Salti and his school have be-

come used to battles and ceasefires over the past 14 years of civil war. But he said the current outbreak of fighting "is probably the most cruel, the most protracted" of the war.

But he said: "We are planning to resume (classes) as soon as the ceasefire is stable."

He said if the university can meet its Sept. 11 target date, or even one in October, it should be able to make up for the lost time by holding classes through scheduled vacation breaks.

"If a ceasefire is declared tomorrow, in a few days the campus will be a beehive of activity again," he said.

Salti also said that despite the problems, its pre-med students recently scored above the U.S. average on the standard American test used to rate qualifications for medical school.

Salti said the war has driven away nearly all of the foreign staff that once made up 30 per cent of the faculty and has reduced non-Lebanese students to about 10 per cent.

But he said interest from non-Lebanese students remains strong, partly because of the school's standards, location and low cost.

Kabul stocks caviar but residents can hardly afford the basics

By Malcolm Davidson
Reuters

KABUL — Six months after the last Soviet soldier left Afghanistan, shops in the capital still have plenty of Russian vodka and caviar for sale. But they cost a bit more than they used to.

Such luxuries, however are far beyond the means of the average citizens of Kabul unless they work for the government or security forces.

Afghanistan's flat unleavened bread, or "nan," is the staple food, and many poor Kabulites survive on a diet of nan and sweetened tea three times a day.

"The money we get is not enough to feed our families let alone anything else," said a Kabul University lecturer.

A senior teacher at Afghanistan's top educational institute earns only 5,000 afghanis a month. At 380 afghanis to the dollar on the officially condoned black market, that is \$13 a month.

At the beginning of the year, the dollar was worth 200 afghanis in the money bazaar, which acts as a barometer of how the 10-year-old civil war and rumour mills are affecting popular sentiment.

In Kabul's closed society, where political power is vested in the secretive People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA), rumours of coup attempts or intrigue at the top regularly sweep the city.

But after the fear of being blown to pieces in a rebel rocket barrage, the average Kabulite's main concern is getting enough to feed an extended family of 10 or 15 people.

Last winter, when anti-government guerrillas tried to starve Kabul into submission by blocking food supplies, prices soared and 30 Kabul University lecturers out of 600 fled the country.

Although the university has traditionally opposed the Soviet-backed government of President Najibullah, one lecturer said it was probable that most



ROCKETING: Screaming in fear, two children are seen being led away to a safe place when a rocket hit their home in Kabul.

had left for Pakistan and the West more for economic than political reasons.

Speaking frankly only when they knew they were out of

earshot of PDPA members on the faculty, he and two others said they were planning to leave too as soon as they got the chance.

Prices came down from their winter peaks but remain twice as high as in May last year, according to a United Nations survey.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Maghreb envoy tours North Africa

RABAT (R) — Mohamed Seqat, secretary-general of the Arab Maghreb Union, is touring Algeria, Tunisia, Libya and Mauritania with messages for their heads of state from King Hassan of Morocco. The official news agency MAP did not reveal the purpose of Seqat's tour but diplomats said he would deliver invitations to a summit conference of the union, of which King Hassan is current chairman. The Libyan ambassador to Algeria, Sand Medjber, said after conferring with President Chadli Benjedid Monday that the summit would be held in Tripoli Sept. 1, 20th anniversary of the Libyan revolution. The Arab Maghreb Union, set up last February, links the five North African states in a form of common market. The summit is expected to review progress in coordinating their economic and social policies.

Iran releases 6 Somali POWs

NICOSIA (AP) — Iran Tuesday released six Somalis captured in the eight-year war with Iraq, Tehran Television reported. The broadcast, monitored in Nicosia, showed the six prisoners of war at Tehran's Mehrabad airport waiting to be flown home. Wearing dark gray outfits, the six men were served fruit and confectionery and interviewed by a television reporter. The television said that they were released for "humanitarian reasons," but gave no other details. It also did not say when they were captured.

U.S. hopes Cyprus talks resume soon

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States hopes that U.N. talks on the reunification of Cyprus can resume soon, State Department deputy spokesman Richard Boucher said Tuesday. Boucher told reporters the department had seen reports that Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash had rejected the United Nations plan for the negotiations, but had had no formal notification of a decision by the Turkish Cypriot legislative assembly. "We note that both sides will continue to cooperate fully with the U.N., and we hope that the talks will resume shortly," Boucher said. Cyprus President George Vassiliou has said he would accept the U.S. suggestion for a federal republic, while Turkish Cypriots have strongly disagreed. "The U.S. continues to support strongly the good-offices mission of the U.N. secretary general. We believe that the negotiations conducted over the past year have created an opportunity for real progress in achieving a solution to the Cyprus problem," Boucher said.

Begin leaves hospital

TEL AVIV (AP) — Former Prime Minister Menachem Begin was discharged from Shaare Zedek hospital Tuesday a week after he was hospitalized complaining of weakness, a hospital spokeswoman said. Doctors treated Begin, who turned 76 Aug. 12, for a shortage of salt in his system, said spokeswoman Dvora Weisman. The former prime minister walked from the hospital holding the arm of his daughter, Hania.

Rafsanjani names another vice-president

NICOSIA (R) — Iranian President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani appointed Hamid Mirzadeh, a former deputy prime minister in charge of post-war reconstruction, as vice-president in charge of executive affairs Tuesday, Tehran Radio reported. Mirzadeh, who served under outgoing Prime Minister Mir-Hossein Mousavi, also supervised the economic mobilization headquarters which organized rationing of basic goods. Rafsanjani named French-trained Justice Minister Hassan Ebrahim Habibi as first vice-president Monday. Habibi will head the cabinet and take over as interim president in the event of Rafsanjani's death, dismissal, absence or illness lasting more than two months.

Glasnost brings 'Green Book' to Soviets

NICOSIA (R) — Glasnost has brought the thoughts of Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi to the readers of the Soviet Union. His Green Book outlining his philosophy has been translated into Russian and published in the Soviet Union for the first time, the Libyan news agency JANA said Wednesday. "This book is like the Bible of Jesus or Tablets of Moses or the short speech of the camel rider," the introduction said, in an apparent reference to the Prophet Muhammad. "I, being a simple bedouin who rode on a donkey and looked after sheep, present my small Green Book," Qadhafi says in the foreword to the Russian edition. JANA said publication had been possible because of reforms introduced by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Egyptian police crack down on pickpockets

CAIRO (R) — Police netted nine women members of a pickpocketing clan during a daylong anti-crime operation in Cairo, Egyptian newspapers said Wednesday. The papers said the pickpockets spat at their victims to distract them while their pockets were being rifled. Police said Sabreen Mohammed Lotfi, one of the pickpockets who all members of the Hangaraniya clan, owned four Mercedes cars and sent her three children to expensive schools. They said clan members married their daughters off to thieves and pickpockets within the clan and never to outsiders.

Israel withholds letter sent to Obeld

TEL AVIV (R) — It could be fan mail or a hate letter, but Sheikh Abdul Karim Obeld will never know. Obeld, a leader of the Hizbollah (Party of God) abducted by Israel from southern Lebanon last month, was sent a letter by an American missionary group from California. The Israeli army refused to deliver it. "It wasn't shown to him and we're not publishing what the letter said," an army spokeswoman told Reuters. The letter, addressed to Obeld care of Israeli army headquarters, was the first sent to the sheikh since his abduction on July 28, she said.

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 77111-19

PROGRAMME ONE	
15:30	Koran
15:40	Programme review
15:45	Children programme
15:50	Hit Squad
15:55	News for the Day
16:00	Religious programme
16:05	Health programme
16:10	Programme review
16:15	News in Arabic
16:20	Local series
16:25	Programme review
16:30	Local programme
16:35	Local programme
16:40	Arabic film

PROGRAMME TWO	
17:30	Champs Elysees
17:35	News in French
17:40	Documentary
17:45	News in Hebrew
17:50	Varieties
17:55	News in Arabic
18:00	Bill Cosby Show
18:05	Max Headroom
18:10	News in English
18:15	Feature film: "The Pursuit of D.B. Cooper"

PRAYER TIMES	
04:38	Fajr
06:00	(Sunrise) Duha
12:38	Dhuhr
16:16	'Asr
19:16	Maghreb
20:38	Isha

CHURCHES	
St. Mary of Nazareth Church	Selkirk Tel. 810740
Assumption of God Church	Tel. 637357
St. Joseph Church	Tel. 624990

WEATHER	
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 627440	
De la Salette Church Tel. 661757	
Terrace Church Tel. 623366	
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541	
Anglican Church Tel. 623543	
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331	
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 772361	
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751	
Armenian International Church Tel. 685326	
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295	
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817, 821284	

WEATHER	
Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology	
Normal summer conditions will prevail and winds will be northwesterly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.	
Min./Max. temp.	18 / 32
Aqaba	25 / 39
Deserts	19 / 36
Jordan Valley	25 / 38

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS	
NIGHT DUTY	
AMMAN:	
Dr. Walid Sahawneh	779997

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Dr. Abdul Majid Sha'er	791405
Dr. Hani Haddadin	777751
Dr. Fakher Bilbisi	625778
Pain pharmacy	643913
Fendous pharmacy	778336
Al Asena pharmacy	637055
Nairookh pharmacy	626727
Al Salem pharmacy	636730
Yaacob pharmacy	644943
Shamsat pharmacy	637660

IBRD:	(—)
Dr. Shubeh Al Zagh	(—)
Al Sabana pharmacy	(985238)

ZARQA:	(—)
Dr. Abdul Karim Khashashneh	(—)
Khalifeh pharmacy	985417

EMERGENCIES	
Civil Defence Department	661111
Civil Defence Immediate	63041
Civil Defence Emergency	189
Rescue Police	192, 61111, 63777
Fire Brigade	891228
Blood Bank	775121
Highway Police	843402
Traffic Police	898390
Public Security Department	630321
Hotel Complaints	605800
Price Complaints	661176
Water and Sewerage	897467
Amman Municipality	787111
Complaints	787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance)	121
Overseas Calls	010230
Central Amman Telephone	623101
Repair	623101
Abdali Telephone Repairs	661101
Jordan Television	773111

Radio Jordan	774111
Water Authority	680100
Jordan Electricity Authority	815615
Electric Power Company	636381
RJ Flight Information	08-53200
Queen Alia Intl. Airport	08-53200

HOSPITALS	
AMMAN:	
Hussein Medical Centre	812813/32
Khalid Maternity, J. Amn.	644281/6
Jabal Amman Maternity	642362
Mallat, J. Amman	636140
Palestine, Shamsat	664171/4
Shamsat Hospital	669131
University Hospital	845845
Al-Munster Hospital	667227/4
The Islamic, Abdali	666127/37
Al-Ahli, Abdali	664164/6
Italian, Al-Mahajra	777101/3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh	775117/26
Army, Marja	891611/15
Queen Alia Hospital	08-53200
ZARQA:	
Zarqa Gov. Hospital	(09)893323
Zarqa National Hospital	(09)991071
Bin Sina Hospital	(09)996732
IBRD:	
Princess Basma Hospital	(02)275555
Greek Catholic Hospital	(02)272725
Bin Al Nafous Hospital	(02)247100
AQABA:	
Princess Haya Hospital	(03)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER	
QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	
This information is supplied by Royal	

Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS	
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)	

05:30	Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
06:15	Damascus (RJ)
06:30	Aqaba (RJ)
06:45	Jeddah (RJ)
07:00	Riyadh (RJ)
07:15	Cairo (RJ)
07:30	Dhahran (RJ)
07:45	Kuwait (RJ)
08:00	Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
08:15	Colombo (RJ)
08:30	Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
08:45	Calcutta (RJ)
09:00	London (RJ)
09:15	Luxembourg (RJ)
09:30	Cairo (RJ)
09:45	New York (RJ)
10:00	Athens (RJ)
10:15	Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)
10:30	Dubai, Moscow (RJ)
10:45	Kuwait (RJ)
11:00	Rome (RJ)
11:15	Frankfurt (RJ)
11:30	Baghdad (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)	
09:15	Dubai (TU)
10:15	Sanaa (LE)
11:00	Istanbul (TK)
11:30	Kuwait (KU)
12:00	Cairo (MS)
12:30	Kuwait (KU)
14:20	Moscow, Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GF)

15:00	Baghdad (IA)
16:00	Bucharest (RO)
17:25	Riyadh (SV)
18:15	Dubai (EK)
18:25	Amsterdam (KL)
19:25	Frankfurt (LH)
20:10	Zurich, Larnaca (SR)
01:05	London (BA)

DEPARTURES	
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)	
06:00	Aqaba (RJ)
06:15	Rome (RJ)
06:30	Athens (RJ)
06:45	Vienna, New York (RJ)
07:00	Frankfurt (add.) (RJ)
07:15	Vienna, Chicago, Los Angeles (RJ)
07:30	London (RJ)</

Sharif Zaid appoints new head for NPC

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker Wednesday announced the appointment of Dr. Mohammad Abdul Hadi Al Akel as secretary general of the National Population Committee (NPC) and the committee's deputy chairman.

Akel, who had served on the committee representing the Queen Alia Jordan Social Welfare Fund (OAF) succeeds Dr. Tayseer Abdul Jabbar to the post following the recent appointment of the latter as secretary general of the Economic and Social Committee for Western Asia (ESCWA) which is based in Iraq.

The NPC which is chaired by Labour Minister Jamal Bdour, groups the secretaries general of the Ministries of Higher Education, Education, Planning, Health, Information, Awqaf and Islamic Affairs as well as direc-

tors general of the Department of Statistics, the Passports and Civil Registration, and representatives of women unions, Jordanian universities, the Armed Forces as well as QAF.

The NPC which was established in 1973 aims to define and diagnose Jordan's population problems prior to working out a long-term national population strategy that can cope with the Kingdom's economic development and propose plans for a socio-economic advancement.

According to the statement, the NPC also aims to carry out population activities programming, support government and private endeavours, promote the role of local population in socio-economic development and spread public awareness in matters related to national population policies.

Banks asked not to charge extra commission on dollar

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) Wednesday issued a circular to local banks and financial institutions reminding them that no extra commission should be charged from the public for selling foreign currency at rates set according to the two tier system introduced recently here.

The circular reiterated that CBJ was ready to make available unspecified amounts of foreign currency to finance the importation of medicine, to cover the expenses of Jordanian students abroad and to supply non-Jordanian workers employed in the agricultural sector in Jordan with

amounts to be transferred to their home country.

The statement made it clear that banks should strictly abide by the CBJ instructions and the set rates.

The Jordanian dinar firmed against the dollar on the free market in Jordan over the past week after the CBJ said it would supply banks with U.S. dollars.

The CBJ set the dinar's official price at 597.36033 fils to the dollar and noted that dollars could be obtained at this rate for financing the importation of medicines, to cover fees of Jordanian students abroad and to import subsidised food.



Happy birthday

AMMAN (J.T.) — Wednesday, Aug. 23, marked the birthday of Her Majesty Queen Noor Al Hussein. Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor were married on June 15, 1978. Queen Noor has given birth to four children — Their Royal Highnesses Prince Hamzah, Prince Hashem, Princess Inan and Princess Raiyah. On this occasion, the management and the staff of the Jordan Times wish Her Majesty many happy returns of the day.



FIELD VISIT: His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday visits army units in the southern region (Petra photo).

Queen stresses importance of income-generating projects

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor and the director and senior staff of the Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) Wednesday reviewed proposals for new income-generating projects in economically underdeveloped, predominantly rural regions of the country.

The meeting was a follow-up to the Queen's recent visit to the village of Dagh, south of Petra, where the NHF and local community leaders and women's groups are examining the most effective means of establishing home- and village-based projects that would allow women to increase their family incomes through productive work that is in keeping with local social and

cultural traditions.

Wednesday's meeting also drew on the experiences of several other income-generating projects established by the foundation throughout the country during the past four years. (These include traditional rug weaving projects among the Bani Hamida women of Mekawir and women in Jerash, a bee-keeping and pickled food scheme in Kerak, and manufacturing projects in low-income areas of Amman.)

The existing projects have successfully created new job opportunities for women who have been able to increase both their self-satisfaction and family income by working at home in their

spare time, without neglecting their traditional family responsibilities.

Queen Noor stressed that such income-generating projects should focus particularly on providing new work opportunities for women, because of the woman's pivotal and constructive social and economic role in rural areas where men are often likely to find work outside the village.

During the past year, Queen Noor has met with local community leaders in several other rural regions of the country to examine opportunities for such income-generating projects, such as in Wadi Araba, Mafrqa, Ajloun and other areas.

Arab information ministers to discuss support for intifada

TUNIS (Petra) — Arab ministers of information are due to open a meeting here Thursday to discuss the situation in the occupied Arab territories and the uprising of the Palestinian people, as well as other topics of concern to the Arab Nation.

An Arab League spokesman said that the two-day meeting will explore various aspects of Arab information policies and ways of employing a pan-Arab strategy in information to serve Arab causes

and cement Arab ranks in the face of common challenges.

The ministers' meeting has been prepared by a standing technical committee which concluded meetings here late Tuesday night and prepared an agenda of recommendations and resolutions for their ministers.

According to the spokesman, these include a pan-Arab strategy paving the way for the Arab Nation to make moves next year in the international arena,

and a proposal for maximising benefits that could come from using the Arab satellite now in orbit.

Other topics include means of bolstering Arab-African relations and plans to boost Arab television production.

The spokesman said that the plan on the occupied territories entails measures to boost the Palestinian peoples' steadfastness and to promote the Palestine cause at the international level.



PRODUCING EDUCATIONAL AIDS: A group of 12 people graduated Wednesday from a three-week training course on producing and using educational aids used in promoting health

training programmes. Dr. Kandee Shaker, director of a centre for promoting educational development in health affairs at the University of Jordan, distributed diplomas to the graduates (Petra).

AACO taking steps to face heavy competition from foreign airlines

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Arab Air Carriers Organisation (AACO) is taking certain measures with the purpose of enabling Arab airlines to deal with heavy competition from world airlines, AACO Secretary General Adli Dajani said Wednesday.

The organisation is now

urgently seeking the establishment of a pan-Arab company to finance purchasing and leasing aircraft to Arab airlines, and to establishing a comprehensive unified distribution system which would eventually lead to integration among Arab airlines, Dajani said in an address at the opening session of a two-day AACO meeting in Amman.

The AACO's technical committee, which is chaired by Dajani himself, is scheduled to discuss resolutions passed by the organisation's general assembly, which includes joint ventures in civil aviation fields.

The committee will discuss questions related to the projected company which is expected to be announced in October, Dajani noted.

He said that the committee will have another meeting in the coming month to invite bids from world companies specialising in distribution systems to carry out the project.

The Amman-based AACO last month signed an agreement with an international consultancy firm to conduct a feasibility study on the scheme, and a report on the project is to be reviewed at the two-day meeting.

The unified distribution system is expected to enable all travel offices and airlines in the Arab World to conduct reservations and booking procedures with

greater ease and would help provide better services to customers.

On the committee are delegates from AACO member states who will discuss reports about the ACC organisational plans, training programmes, public relations and the financial situation.

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Supply Wednesday implied in a statement that some centres entrusted with selling imported fresh meat had been illegally selling it to local hotels and restaurants and also manipulating meat prices. The ministry warned that these centres face penalties if they violate supply regulations.

A statement signed by Minister of Supply Ibrahim Ayyoub said that licences issued to fresh meat distribution centres would be cancelled if the proprietors refrain from selling fresh meat they receive from the Supply Ministry, or sell at rates above those set by the ministry or tend to conceal the fresh meat.

Licences will also be cancelled if the proprietors are found to own and operate more than one meat distribution centres in Jordan, the statement noted.

In his communique, the minister banned the selling of imported fresh meat to hotels, restaurants or public organisations which, he said, should use either locally produced fresh meat or frozen meat which is now being imported from New Zealand and other countries.

Ayyoub said that imported fresh meat should only be sold to

members of the public who, for the past month, had found great difficulty in finding sufficient amounts of fresh meat on the local market.

Frozen meat is being sold at specified centres in the Kingdom at JD 1.1 per kilogramme, according to Ayyoub in an earlier statement.

The minister noted that the Ministry of Supply would continue to import fresh meat, mostly from Eastern Europe.

The ministry had earlier said in a statement that the frozen meat would not serve as a substitute for fresh meat which Jordan imports mostly from Bulgaria and Turkey.

Ayyoub said that Jordan would import 15,000 tonnes of meat during 1989 of which 10,000 would be fresh and the rest frozen.

New Zealand meat has proved

to be of very high quality and is being imported by the Ministry of Supply for distribution at licenced centres in Jordan.

In the past month, the military governor who is also Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, issued an order to court-martial any merchant found violating the price regulations set by the Ministry of Supply.

A number of merchants and proprietors of businesses have already been tried and fined by the court.

Meat is one of the main staples being imported by Jordan along with sugar, wheat and other cereals.

In April, the director of Prices and Quality Control Department at the Ministry of Supply said that Jordan last year imported basic foodstuffs worth JD 173 million and exported JD 30 million worth of food supplies to other countries.

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

PAKISTANI GUEST LEAVES: Pakistani Chief of Staff General Mirza Aslam Bek left Amman Wednesday at the conclusion of a several-day official visit to Jordan during which he was received by His Majesty King Hussein, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Chief of Staff General Fathi Abu Taleb, and a number of senior officials.

MAJALI IN TUNIS: Minister of Culture and Information Nasouh Majali arrived in Tunis Wednesday leading Jordan's delegation to the 24th ordinary session of the Arab Information Ministers' Council due to open in Tunis Thursday (Petra).

CIVIL DEFENCE MARTYRS' FUND: The Cabinet has endorsed the project to establish the Civil Defence Martyrs' Fund to help the families of Civil Defence Department Martyrs. (Petra)

ACC JUSTICE MINISTERS START MEETING: Ministers of Justice in the four member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries opened a two-day meeting in Baghdad Wednesday to discuss measures for unifying legislations and regulations related to judicial matters in Egypt, Jordan, Iraq and North Yemen. Justice Minister Rafeb Al Wazani represents Jordan at the meeting which will discuss legislations pertaining to penalties, juvenile delinquents, matters related to minors' welfare, laws related to the registration of real estate and other topics. The four ministers will discuss ways to unify laws and regulations dealing with judicial matters in the four states, according to Wazani. He said that the subject of establishing a higher judicial institute to train judges in the ACC countries will also come up at the meeting. (Petra)

MALHAS INSPECTS HEALTH CENTRE: Minister of Health and Social Development Dr. Zubair Malhas Wednesday inspected North Marka Health Centre and was briefed on the centre's medical services. This centre was established in 1980. (Petra)

SSC TO OPEN BRANCH IN AJLOUN: The Social Security Corporation has decided to open a branch in Ajloun to provide services and necessary information to employees in Ajloun district. (Petra)

Coming parliament should enact health insurance scheme — Hamzeh

AMMAN (J.T.) — Former Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh has called on the coming parliament which is to be elected in November this year to enact legislation concerning the projected health insurance scheme for all members of the Jordanian public.

"I confess that as a minister I failed to implement the scheme due to the numerous odds I had to overcome and the difficult circumstances that I encountered," the former minister said in a lecture he delivered at the Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation.

Individual deputies in the coming parliament would find themselves impotent in this affair, but working together and in groups,

perhaps in political blocs, they would be in a stronger position, and can and should move ahead fast to ensure the implementation of the scheme which is bound to benefit the broad sector of Jordan's citizens, Hamzeh said.

The former minister blamed the Social Security Corporation (SSC) for failing to take the proper measures in implementing article four of paragraph 13 of its law which specifically provides for health and medical services to all beneficiaries.

He also blamed the Labour Ministry which is responsible for the SSC for delaying moves in this direction, and also certain elements, including some businesses, that cast doubts on

the whole project engineered two years ago.

Dr. Hamzeh said that the private sector should be given a major role in implementing the health scheme and companies and other businesses should be involved by providing funds that would be sufficient to cover medical insurance for their employees.

Money deducted from employees' salaries and current contributions from the private and public institutions towards the SSC services falls short of a covering the needs of health insurance," Hamzeh noted.

He said that a series of meetings were held with representatives of various businesses to find an acceptable formula that would ensure the health scheme, but nothing was achieved.

The former minister said that 920,000 people are covered by the Health Ministry's medical insurance scheme and hold cards for treatment at health centres and hospitals at a nominal cost.

The Royal Medical Services also provide medical services to military and Public Security personnel, covering another sector of the public. "But a large sector of the people, including labourers, are left without proper medical insurance," Hamzeh said.

he said it is up to the SSC, owners of different businesses in the private and public sectors, companies, banks etc., to come up with a practical health insurance scheme.

It is also the responsibility of the coming parliament to ensure that proper legislation is passed to guarantee such a vital project for Jordan," Hamzeh added.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arab press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITION

- ★ An art exhibition by Jordanian artist Maha Abu 'Ayyash at the Plastic Artists Association, Shmeisani.
- ★ An art exhibition by Jordanian artists Khaleel Ghawanmeh and Abdullah Kamaleh, and the Syrian artist Wafaa Al Masri at the Housing Bank Art Gallery.
- ★ An art exhibition by Jordanian artist 'Adnan Al Bili at the Royal Cultural Centre — 5:00 p.m.

FESTIVAL

- ★ A cultural festival including exhibitions of books, paintings and national documents, as well as documentary films, lectures and poetry recitals at Eder Sports Club, Karak.

FILM

- ★ A feature film entitled "The Raging Bull" at the American Centre — 7:00 p.m.

TENDER ANNOUNCEMENT

Jordanian Syrian Land Transport Company Invites

Contractors to participate in tender No. 4/89 for supply of spare parts for its Mercedes trucks type (L&S 2624) as per part numbers and quantities attached with terms of tender.

Contractors wishing to bid for tender can obtain copies of tender documents from the company in Jabal Al-Hussein behind Ministry of Health, opposite Al-Fadel Ibn-Abbas Mosque-Amman for a non-refundable fee of JD 120,000 (One Hundred and Twenty Jordan Dinars) per copy, bearing official documents proving their registration in trading agents' records.

Tenders should be submitted not later than 12.00 noon (Local summer time) on Monday September 28th, 1989.

Hisham Acofar
Director General/
(General Manager)

ARAMEX INTERNATIONAL

ARAMEX INTERNATIONAL
"FOR FURTHER INFORMATION"

ARAMEX INTERNATIONAL
"FOR FURTHER INFORMATION"

TO: ALL FILIPINOS IN JORDAN

ARAMEX IT !!

SUBOK NA MATATAG. SUBOK NA MATIBAY SA MABABANG PRESYO JD 0.90 ISANG KILO KAYO AY NAKAKASIGURADO. HUWAG BASTA MANIWALA SA MGA AGENTENG NAGBABAKASAKALI SA BAGAHE NINYO. HUWAG NINYONG KALILIMUTAN NA ANG ARAMEX AY ANG ORIGINAL NA KOMPANYANG NAGTATANG KARGO AMMAN-MANILA. TAWAGANG PO NINYO SA TELEPONO NUMERO 660507/660508

"FOR FURTHER INFORMATION"

ARAMEX INTERNATIONAL

الأجل

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation
Established 1975

جورديان تايمز يومية عربية سياسية مستقلة تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية

Editorial Director:
RAKAN AL MAJALI

Director General:
DR. RADI AL WAQFI

Editor-in-Chief:
DR. WALEED M. SADI

Editorial and advertising offices:
Jordan Press Foundation,
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171-6, 670141-4, 684311, 684366
Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Facsimile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.
Subscription and advertising rates are available from the
Jordan Times Advertising Department.

No candle for Palestine

"IT IS better to light a single candle than curse the darkness," that was how the American delegate ended his speech Tuesday to the U.N. Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, after proposing some concrete steps towards uprooting gross violations of human rights. Well and fine. The world indeed needs surefooted action to identify the reasons behind such violations and address the root conflicts. Thanks and gratitude would seem to be in order to the United States for bringing the pressing issue into international attention.

As the first step, the U.S. is proposing that the U.N. subcommission conduct a major study on the underlying causes of ethnic, cultural and religious conflicts and another on the moral and ethical basis of law. Excellent. Nothing would suit the world more to help it understand the realities behind reports of people being denied their human rights, how some of them are persecuted and what lies in store for many who dare speak out against injustice. It will also provide the international community enough ammunition and solid ground to base its rejection of contentions aired by governments and armies to justify arbitrary actions.

In concept, the American proposals are some of the best and most result-oriented. But somehow, somewhere, the delegate, none other than human rights expert Morris Abram, seemed to have very conveniently forgotten a region known as the Middle East, particularly what was once known as Palestine, where systematic violations of every human right of an occupied people by an occupier are on hourly occurrence. Of course, Abram did not forget to mention the issue of Jews in Syria, who, he said, want to emigrate; and, of course, the killing of American hostage William Higgins in Lebanon.

We do not know whether any delegate present at Tuesday's meeting in Geneva found it fit to point out to Abram that his address, which tackled China's bloody crackdown on pro-democracy protesters, Cuba's jailing of "brave activists," Bulgaria's treatment of ethnic Turks and "devastation and deaths" in the Horn of Africa and West Africa because of "forced expulsions," very carefully skirted any mention of Israel's Nazi-like practices against the Palestinian people — the daily killings, beatings, arrests, arbitrary detentions, demolition of homes, expulsions etc. etc. — which the world has seen for itself.

While we do not have any doubts about Abram's writing skills and oratory abilities as well as his commitment to upholding human rights, we wonder whether he himself wrote Tuesday's speech or someone telefaxed it to him since there is little doubt that the omission of any reference whatsoever in it of the human rights situation in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip was no oversight. We do not have to ask why the omission; we know that is the way things are done by the U.S. — quite simply, human rights assume a totally different dimension under official American eyes when they reach Israel and the occupied territories.

We would have liked the American call more had Abram's reference to the candle and darkness been a little more explicit and reflected the actual American position: "the light of the single candle should not reach Palestine."

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

AI Ra'i daily commented Wednesday on Palestine President Yasser Arafat's statement at a press conference in Amman in which he declared that the PLO would continue its dialogue with the United States despite the little achievement accomplished so far in finding a peace formula. The paper said that the PLO is determined to show the whole world that it is Israel which is intransigent in its position and that it is the United States which backs such stubborn position. The paper said that Israel has proved it is opposed to any comprehensive settlement and that it is an enemy not only of the Palestinians, but also the whole Arab Nation. Washington's support for Israel is practical as well as theoretical; and the United States is showing the world everyday that it is translating its words into deeds by continuing to adopt Israel's position, the paper noted. Most importantly, the paper said, the Israeli-American alliance has adamantly refused Arafat's peace offer and the Arab World's total orientation towards peace as expressed by the resolutions of the Casablanca Arab summit. The United States, the paper added, continues to deny the rights of the Palestinian people and continues to reject peace based on justice which would establish security in the Middle East. The outcome of Arafat's meeting in Amman over the past few days proved once again that concerted Palestinian-Jordanian efforts can always foil Israel's plots and fend off danger posed to the Arab Nation.

A columnist in AI Ra'i Arabic daily places the blame for the absence of peace in Lebanon on Israel's conspiracies and acts of aggression. Ibrahim Salkijha says that by abducting the Shi'ite sheikh from southern Lebanon, Israel has thus paved the way for an escalation of tension in Lebanon where the Arab League mediation committee was about to achieve a breakthrough in negotiations for peace. The writer says Israel seeks to step up tension and to see foreign forces intervening in Lebanon not only to deflect world public attention from the situation in the occupied Arab territories under its rule but also to provide a cover for actions that it might carry out in the area. Israel's moves at the moment, which led to the assassination of the American general in Lebanon, and caused a flare up of shelling in different parts of Beirut, could be part of a camouflage attempt for a new act of aggression on Syria or any other Arab country in the region, the writer warns. He says that an Israeli aggression could be launched any time now under the pretext that its security is threatened. He calls on the Arab World to be on the alert, specially in view of the massing of naval forces in the eastern Mediterranean region.

Gandhi's off and running for re-election

By Earleen Fisher

The Associated Press

HYDERABAD, India — Rajiv Gandhi, the prime minister, flew to south India and became Rajiv Gandhi, the candidate, as he hopped by helicopter across friendly and hostile political turf as part of his upcoming re-election bid.

With forceful voice and blistering rhetoric at odds with his congenial appearance, he denounced those who seek to oppose him as relics of a feudal past, consorts with traitors and assassins, and potential instigators of religious wars.

In less than five years, Gandhi has grown from political novice to confident campaigner as he seeks to perpetuate the family dynasty. It began in 1947 when his grandfather, Jawaharlal Nehru, became India's first prime minister as the vast Asian subcontinent was freed from British colonial rule.

The Nehru-Gandhi family domination of the prime ministership has been interrupted only twice, for a total of three years. It was personified and perpetuated by Nehru's daughter, the charismatic and iron-willed Indira Gandhi, whose 1984 assassination propelled Rajiv Gandhi, an average student and ex-airline pilot, into the leadership of the world's largest — albeit flawed and unruly — democracy.

The young man who rode to victory in a wave of sympathy for his mother's death is now, at age 45, being put to the test of harsher political realities.

Under Indian law, he must call elections no later than Jan. 4. At last count, the elections commission was considering applications of 216 parties or would-be parties that are seeking places on the ballot.

The problem for the opposition

— and the advantage for Gandhi — is that the closest thing to a well-organized national political party in India is the Congress Party he inherited from his grandfather and mother.

NEWS ANALYSIS

The next-best thing at the moment is the Janata Dal, or National Front, an ever-shifting alliance of about half a dozen parties or movements constantly at war within itself.

It was against the Janata Dal that Gandhi came out swinging in 13 speeches during a 31-hour swing across the south Indian states of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh last Friday and Saturday.

To be sure, Gandhi has been trading barbs with Janata Dal President Viswanath Pratap Singh, his former defence and finance minister, for about three years. But he now has launched a

frontal attack on N.T. Rama Rao, the Janata Dal's chairman. The very fact that Janata Dal has a president, a chairman and a "collective leadership" is indicative of the ego-stroking that has been done to muster it together.

One of the biggest egos belongs to Rama Rao, Andhra Pradesh's chief minister, or top elected official. But more importantly in a country where the electorate's literacy rate hovers around 40 per cent, Rama Rao is a movie star of mythical proportion who has portrayed just about every major deity in the Hindu pantheon. He is timing the release of his next film for the election campaign.

Rama Rao, who routinely dresses in facial paint and bright orange robes invocatory of the gods he portrays so majestically, is also the leader of Telugu Desam, a political party operating only in Andhra Pradesh.

The efficacy of Indian opposition parties is demonstrated by

the fact that this purely regional party won the second-largest bloc of national parliament seats in the 1984 election: 30 to the Gandhi party's 415 in the 544-seat, policy-making lower house.

In speeches to Congress Party rallies — officially scheduled as "public meetings" — in four economically depressed Andhra Pradesh towns, Gandhi accused Rama Rao's state government of corruption, exploitation of the poor and failure to provide protection from a murky Maoist band known as Naxalites.

By the time he got to Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh's capital, candidate Gandhi had nominally reverted to Prime Minister Gandhi.

Seated beside Rama Rao at a news conference, Gandhi repeated some of the same charges. When a reporter tried to ask Rama Rao a question, the head of the prime minister's informa-

tion office, Gopalaswami Patil, asarathy, stepped forward to say: "This is not a joint press conference."

Rama Rao was scathingly silent. The next day, according to the anti-Gandhi national newspaper Indian Express, the movie star sniped at the prime minister as an "inexperienced young brat."

Still, a national opinion poll conducted for the respected new magazine India Today this month projected Gandhi's Congress Party would receive 315, or 58 per cent, of the seats for the upcoming parliamentary election.

Even if the opposition parties as a whole captured a majority, 58 per cent of the 10,399 registered voters surveyed doubted they'd be able to form a government. And if they did, 69 per cent thought any such government would fall apart before its five-year term was up.

Emerging from shadow of World War II

By Tony Barber
Reuters

WARSAW — Fifty years after Nazi forces attacked Poland on September 1, 1939, Eastern Europe is finally showing signs of emerging from the Communist domination which was the region's main legacy from World War II.

From Poland and Hungary to the Baltic republics of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, which were swallowed up by the Soviet Union in 1940, millions of people have been fired with the ambition of ending the Communist power monopoly.

In Poland, Prime Minister-designate Tadeusz Mazowiecki is seeking to form the country's first non-Communist government for more than 40 years.

Popular hopes for changes are alive in countries as diverse as Czechoslovakia, the one Eastern European country which was a successful democracy before 1939, and Yugoslavia, which slipped out of Soviet control in 1948 but remained Communist.

"Poland is where the Second World War began. Poland is where — and why — the cold war began. And it is precisely in Poland that we can set about the unification of Europe," U.S. President George Bush said last month in Warsaw.

Across Eastern Europe as a whole, the picture is far from uniform. Conservative Communist leaderships in Czechoslovakia, East Germany and Romania scarcely bother to conceal their hostility to liberal political reforms in Poland and Hungary.

The Poles and Hungarians have been moving ahead regardless, organising competitive elections, giving their parliaments real power, enshrining civil liberties in new laws, allowing free trade unions and curbing the activities of the secret police.

In the Soviet Baltic republics, independent states between the world wars, mass popular front movements emerged last year to demand more autonomy. Their ruling Communist parties have been forced to swim with the tide of nationalist feeling.

"There is a good chance for Poland and Hungary to switch over to a system which is very different from what has existed for the past 40 years," said Zbigniew Brzezinski, national security adviser to former U.S. President Jimmy Carter.

"The Stalinist system is not going to survive in the long run in other Eastern bloc countries...so the changes which have begun in Poland will spread to all of the Eastern bloc," he said in an article in the Polish weekly Tygodnik Solidarnosc.

Few question that political ferment has rarely been stronger in Eastern Europe, the region which, in the eyes of many of its own people, had little more reason than Hitler's Third Reich to celebrate the outcome of World War II.

After suffering German occupation until 1944 or 1945, the countries of Eastern Europe quickly found themselves locked in a Soviet sphere of control which meant the imposition of Communism and almost a decade of Stalinist terror.

Thousands of people were executed or jailed. Non-Communist leaders were eliminated. The revolution even devoured its own children. Hungary's Laszlo Rajk, Bulgaria's Traicho Kostov and Czechoslovakia's Rudolf Slansky were among executed Communists.

The Soviet-installed Eastern European leaderships justified the Communist monopoly partly by pointing to the disasters which befell their countries in the 1930s under unstable right-wing authoritarian governments.

They also warned their peoples of the supposed threat posed by West Germany. Germany lost territory to the Soviet Union, Poland and Czechoslovakia in 1945 and the new western state was portrayed in the Communist world as thirsty for revenge.

If you talk these days with a Pole or a Czechoslovak, it becomes clear that, so far from being seen as a potential enemy, West Germany is regarded as prosperous and free and a highly desirable place to visit or even to emigrate to.

It was the Soviet or, more precisely, the Russian impact, which suffered. In Czechoslovakia, a long tradition of mutual Slavic sympathy was wrecked in 1968 when Soviet forces led an invasion to crush the "Prague spring" reforms.

The rise to power of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, and the hopes which he has aroused for liberalisation and national self-determination, mean that at least for some Eastern Europeans, the Russian im-

age is changing. In Warsaw, former dissident intellectuals and advisers to Solidarity such as Adam Michnik say that Poles must take advantage of Gorbachev's presence in the Kremlin to try to overcome centuries of anti-Russian sentiments.

A Gorbachev visit to Czechoslovakia two years ago brought the startling sight of thousands of people applauding the Soviet leader in the streets of Prague where, 19 years earlier, citizens had hurled abuse at occupying Russian soldiers.

Hungarian officials such as Gyula Thurmer, a foreign policy adviser to party general secretary Karoly Grosz, say they think Moscow would accept Hungary's withdrawal from the Warsaw Pact — an issue which brought Soviet tanks into Budapest in 1956.

There is less change in popular attitudes in the Baltic republics. Estonians and Latvians in particular see themselves as having been subjected to decades of Russification after the 1939 Nazi-Soviet pact which assigned them to Soviet control.

Romania nurtures a grievance over the Soviet annexation in World War II of its former lands of Bessarabia and northern Bukovina, and successive post-war Communist leaders have played the "nationalist card" to consolidate their rule.

But even in Romania, whose President Nicolae Ceausescu rules with an autocratic grip, the country's few dissidents say there is popular interest in Gorbachev's relaxation of political controls in the Soviet Union.

Kissinger's misplaced sympathy

By Anthony Lewis

WASHINGTON — Anyone still interested in the views of Henry Kissinger, who once exercised much power in this country, should look at a recent article of his in The Los Angeles Times. The subject was China, but the more interesting subtext was the mind of the author: his attitude on issues of authority and freedom.

Mr. Kissinger bitterly denounced the U.S. House and Senate for voting to impose economic sanctions on China after the massacre in Tiananmen Square. "China remains too important for America's national security," he wrote, "to risk the relationship on the emotions of the moment."

The massacre was entirely a domestic matter, Mr. Kissinger said. "Its brutality was shocking." But "no government in the world would have tolerated having the main square of its capital occupied for eight weeks by tens of thousands of demonstrators." Moreover, a "demonstration of impotence" in Beijing would have encouraged regionalism in China. So "a crackdown was inevitable."

Americans who observed the events in Beijing — reporters, China scholars — agreed that a

crackdown was precisely not inevitable. The protest could have been settled early on my modest official concessions. At the end, the demonstrators were so exhausted and reduced in rank that they could easily have been dispersed without the use of guns and tanks.

Chinese leaders, Mr. Kissinger said, if left to themselves, will learn someday that "economic reform is impossible without the educated groups" that demonstrated for democracy in Beijing, and the workers who supported them. "As so often in Chinese history, the rhythm of Chinese life and of Chinese common sense is likely to produce some practical solution."

But the whole thrust of recent Chinese history is to the contrary, tragically so. Generation after generation of the scientists and teachers and writers so desperately needed to bring that huge country into the stream of modern life has been slaughtered.

Does the United States help China if it sees that pattern of repression and terror repeated, and does no more than murmur tut-tut? The Chinese who are the hope of their country, the brave campaigners for democracy, do not think so. The very foundations of their thinking are the ideals of American freedom, and

they want the United States government to speak out for those ideals.

In the world we have, it is necessary to deal with governments that we do not like. The United States only injured itself — and helped to involve itself in terrible wars — by pretending for decades that the People's Republic of China was not there.

But it does not follow that the United States must close its eyes to horrors going on in countries that view it maintains relations. That view runs counter to the movement of history that has made human rights an important force in American diplomacy — and a concern for people and governments around the world.

In office, Mr. Kissinger never was an enthusiast for public American expressions on human rights. He resented and resisted congressional action on the subject. He liked to deal with the holders of power — with Leonid Brezhnev, say — and not risk ruffling them by calling attention to their brutalities.

Deng Xiaoping similarly now. In his China article, Mr. Kissinger said "the caricature of Deng as a tyrant despoiling Chinese youth is unfair." It will take some explaining to the families of those killed in Tiananmen Square, or

those executed since, as to why that is unfair. It will take even more explaining if Deng's performance leads, as seems increasingly likely, to military rule in China.

Mr. Kissinger objected to U.S. sanctions against any "major country" for "events entirely within its domestic jurisdiction." This terrible century has shown us the price that "domestic" savagery may exact, and not just from the offending government's own citizens. That is one reason why the human rights movement has gained such strength.

When America speaks for human rights, it matters. President Carter helped Andrei Sakharov, and the consequences are still being felt in the Soviet Union. The Jackson-Vanik Amendment had its problems, but American concern for Soviet Jews was effective in the long run.

Henry Kissinger has never understood the power of American ideas. At the end in Vietnam he bewailed the loss of American influence, but that influence has in fact grown since we gave up a wrongful use of force. He has always worried about loss of authority. That is why he could write with such misplaced sympathy that the Chinese government had to act or display "impotence" — The New York Times.

East Bloc press criticises Communist allies

By Colin McIntyre
Reuters

VIENNA — The gloves are coming off in Eastern Europe as a 40-year-old unwritten agreement restraining the press from openly attacking other Communist states appears to be in tatters.

As reformist Communist governments lift the heavy hand of censorship, their born-again media have started looking across borders at subjects that are still taboo in their more conservative neighbours.

"I think the formula of a make-believe unity of views on all issues and avoidance of all controversial matters used until several years ago is now history," Polish Foreign Minister Tadeusz Olechowski told parliament earlier this month.

Started viewers and readers in Hungary and Poland have been treated to interviews with disgraced former Czechoslovak leader Alexander Dubcek, while Hungarians recently watched an interview with the deposed king of Romania in which he attacked the present Communist regime.

The reports enraged the two conservative governments not just because they were available to Hungarians, but to many of their own population as well. Both Romania and Czechoslovakia have large ethnic Hungarian minorities who can pick up Hungarian broadcasts.

In the face of an official Romanian protest, the Budapest gov-

ernment replied simply that it had no power to stop the broadcast, and rebuked Bucharest for assuming that everything transmitted in Hungary represented official policy.

The reply from Budapest omitted to mention that until recently this was the case in Hungary as well.

The anti-reformist governments, while trying to retain a semblance of Communist solidarity by refraining from slugging it out openly, are nevertheless hitting back in thinly veiled attacks on what they see as excessive reformism.

The effects of the reformist East Bloc press are being felt as far away as orthodox Cuba, which recently complained bitterly about Hungarian reporting of the execution of top General Arnaldo Ochoa and his associates for drug trafficking.

Questioned about the attack carried by the Cuban party organ Granma, the reporter who prompted it told Hungarian radio:

"We consider it inconceivable that a Socialist capital should claim for itself the right to deter-

mine the activity, the foreign relations of the other Socialist countries."

His remarks served to highlight the widening gap between the perceived role of the press in the reformist and conservative Communist states.

The trend towards more open reporting began last year when the Hungarian media started accusing the Romanian leadership of persecuting its two million ethnic Hungarians.

Last April it was the turn of Czechoslovakia as Hungarian state television carried an interview with Dubcek, in disgrace since he was toppled after the 1968 Warsaw Pact invasion, in which he attacked the present Prague leadership.

The Czechoslovak government complained to Budapest, but Hungarian television nevertheless broadcast further excerpts.

After being accused interfering in Czechoslovak internal affairs by the Slovak Hungarian-language daily Uj Szo, the reporter who did the interview, Andras Sugar, wrote a scathing open letter to the paper. "Your present government says

that the larger interference with tanks in 1968 was right, despite the fact that the legitimate government and party leadership at the time, the Czechoslovak people and Uj Szo itself protested against it."

"So, while that interference was OK, mine wasn't, is that it? It seems to me that you only allow tanks to interfere with your internal affairs. My problem is that I don't have one."

While extracts from Sugar's letter were carried by the official Hungarian news agency MTI, none of it appeared in Uj Szo.

In Poland the Communist authorities allowed Solidarity to publish the daily Gazeta Wyborcza, which carried the interview with Dubcek and reports regularly on human rights violations, arrests of dissidents and demonstrations in other Communist countries.

While its editor Adam Michnik has praised Gorbachev's reform efforts, it has been attacked by the official press for highlighting "negative" events in East Europe.

Olechowski, while declaring in parliament that the days of the controlled press were over, also made it clear the media were still expected to show restraint.

"When certain matters in other countries do not necessarily appeal to me, I consider immediately whether I should speak out in a harshly negative way."

OPEN FORUM

Questions

By Sana Attiyeh

PALESTINE President Yasser Arafat held up a magnetic card issued to Gazans by Israeli occupation authorities and said: "I am asking Bush, a man who speaks of liberty, what do you think of these magnetic cards? What do you think of this discrimination?"

These forceful questions were posed by Arafat last Tuesday at a press conference in Amman. The tone of his voice and his trembling hand carrying the card had the entire crowd in the conference room silent. Arafat repeated these important questions over and over again to U.S. President George Bush, and later to other Western leaders who support Israel.

"When the killing of Chinese took place one day in a square in Peking, the entire world went crazy, especially the United States. But our children are also being killed everyday. Do human rights exist for everyone but stop when it concerns Palestinian citizens?" Arafat rightly asked.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chairman added that despite the facts of all the criminal measures taken against Palestinians living under Israeli occupation, the U.S. continues to support Israel financially and continues to send arms to the Israelis to kill Palestinians under the age of 20.

Besides the obvious evidence of discrimination similar to that of apartheid — that of the magnetic card — Arafat also spoke of the new and savage measures taken by Israel against the Gazans to quell the intifada: the starvation of Palestinians.

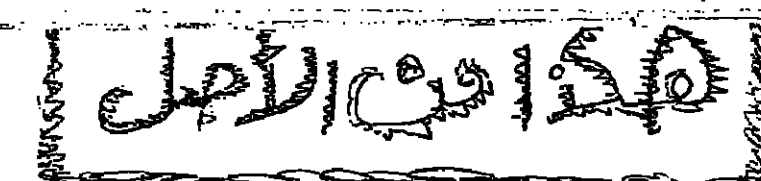
The Israelis will continue to do anything and everything possible to try to silence the people and children of Palestine. They will continue to come up with new and bright ideas and implement them simply and merely because the American government's silence is a sign of their approval of what is happening, or at least of their refusal to disapprove. America's continued support to Israel is a sure sign of its approval of having their U.S.-made bullets penetrate the bodies of the people who resist fascist occupation.

One cannot blame Israel alone for what it is doing to the oppressed Palestinians. The U.S. government must bear a large portion of the responsibility for the suffering of the children and their families. U.S. citizens must also bear the responsibility of those lost lives; the wounded; the homeless, left in the cold after their homes were demolished; the thousands who are being tortured and beaten in Israeli prisons. It is the American citizens' money that is going into the hands of the bloodthirsty. It is American money, American weapons, American support that keeps the Palestinians terrorised daily.

And it looks like the American media has a lot to do with the directions taken by Americans concerning the Palestinian struggle under occupation. Although on a lesser degree than before the eruption of the intifada, the U.S. media continues to stress points that falsely show the Palestinians as still being terrorists in one way or another.

And as long as the U.S. continues this support through finances, arms and the media, only more Palestinians will be killed, wounded, arrested and deported. And it will only protract a possible and just peace settlement that would be beneficial to everyone in the area.

And as Arafat said on Tuesday: "Even patience has limits."



SEPT / SEPT

Particulièrement impliqué dans l'effort diplomatique international visant à obtenir un cessez-le-feu au LIBAN, Paris s'est retrouvé pendant plusieurs heures hier confronté au «détournement» d'un Airbus de la compagnie nationale Air France. L'appareil, qui assurait la liaison Paris-Alger avait finalement atterri à l'aéroport Boumedienne mais ses 102 passagers et les 13 membres d'équipage ont été retenus jusqu'en début de soirée par un inconnu, exigeant la convocation d'urgence d'une conférence internationale de transports, la prise d'otages avait provoqué la réunion d'une cellule de crise. L'incident s'est finalement achevé par la reddition du pirate, un ressortissant algérien expulsé de l'Hexagone. Plus de peur que de mal, alors que huit bâtiments de la marine nationale, dont le porte-avions Foch, font route vers le pays du cedre. Attendue dans la soirée de mercredi au large des côtes libanaises, la flottille française a d'ores et déjà reçu une série de mises en garde de la part des milices libanaises pro-syriennes. Le leader du mouvement chiite Amal, Naji Berri, a notamment averti que ses troupes bombarderaient tout bâtiment qui s'approcherait du Liban. Malgré les déclarations de l'ambassadeur de France à Beyrouth, refusant toute intention d'agression française, et en dépit des précisions apportées par le président Mitterrand, qui avait présenté l'envoi de ces navires comme «une mission de secours et de sauvegarde», les alliés de Damas ont une nouvelle fois dénoncé la «partialité» de Paris en faveur des troupes du général Aoun. Opinion renforcée par les allégations du leader chrétien lui-même, qui dans une interview au quotidien France-Soir, indiquait hier matin avoir reçu des armes et des munitions de la France. Allégations démenties dans la journée par un porte-parole du ministère des Affaires étrangères.

La dégradation continue de la situation au Liban était par ailleurs à l'ordre du jour de la visite du leader de l'OLP à Amman. Dès son arrivée dimanche dans la capitale jordanienne, YASSER ARAFAT avait indiqué que ses entretiens avec le roi Hussein porteraient essentiellement sur «les moyens de consolider le cessez-le-feu», de réactiver «le processus de paix et de soutenir les efforts du triumvirat arabe, soit par la relance de son action, soit par l'intermédiaire d'un sommet arabe extraordinaire». Veu également pour inaugurer la réouverture du Fonds national palestinien, le numéro un de l'OLP a conclu sa visite par une vive critique de l'attitude américaine dans son dialogue avec son organisation. «La patience a des limites», a notamment déclaré Yasser Arafat au cours d'une conférence de presse, mardi matin, ajoutant que le peuple palestinien était en droit d'attendre autre chose que des reproches ou des exigences de la part des Etats-Unis. Brandissant la carte magnétique qu'Israël vient d'imposer aux habitants de Gaza, il a ainsi demandé si les Américains pratiquaient un double langage en matière des droits de l'Homme. (D'après agences).

EN BREF

Ressources. Le Département des ressources naturelles (NRA) vient de publier une étude exhaustive sur les richesses naturelles de la Jordanie. Le document, systématique et détaillé, a pour objectif de servir de guide pratique aux entreprises intéressées par le lancement de projets dans le domaine de l'énergie.

Solaire. Les directeurs des Centres de recherche en matière d'énergie solaire des quatre pays membres du Conseil de coopération arabe (CCA) se réuniront le 7 septembre à Bagdad. A l'ordre du jour de cette première conférence: le développement de la coopération entre la Jordanie, l'Irak, l'Egypte et le Yémen du Nord, ainsi que l'échange d'informations techniques.

Drogue. Sept ans et demi de prison ferme et une amende de 5.000 dinars: c'est la peine à laquelle ont été condamnés la semaine dernière deux Jordaniens accusés de trafic de drogue. Les deux hommes, traduits devant le tribunal militaire, avaient été appréhendés en possession de hachich, qu'ils introduisaient et vendaient dans le royaume. Aucune précision n'a été donnée sur les quantités saisies par les autorités.

Nomination. Ali Hachemi Rafsanjani a nommé lundi Hassan Habibi, 52 ans, au poste de premier vice-président de la République islamique. Ancien ministre de la Justice, Hassan Habibi fait partie des quelques personnalités politiques du pays ouvertement favorables au dialogue avec l'Occident. Le président iranien a par ailleurs confié le portefeuille de vice-président chargé des relations avec le pouvoir judiciaire et le Parlement à Ataollah Mohajerani, ancien vice-premier ministre.

Compagnie aérienne. Husam Abou Ghazalah, 48 ans, a été nommé mardi au poste de président de la compagnie aérienne nationale. Ancien commandant adjoint de l'armée de l'air, il était entré à la Royal Jordanian en 1987 et occupait depuis le mois de juin la fonction de vice-président. Mr. Ghazalah succède à Ali Ghandour, qui a démissionné le 18 août après avoir dirigé la compagnie pendant 15 ans.

Navigation. Israéliens et Egyptiens se rencontreront au Caire, début septembre, pour évoquer les problèmes de navigation dans le golfe d'Aqaba. Les représentants israéliens demanderont notamment l'autorisation pour leurs navires d'accoster ailleurs qu'au seul port de Chami al-Sheik (Sinaï). Les deux pays s'efforcent aussi de simplifier les formalités frontalières en cas d'urgence. Israël pourrait, enfin, solliciter pour ses ressortissants l'accès à divers sites de plongée, le long de la côte égyptienne.

Elizabeth Taylor. Le roi Hassan II du Maroc a reçu l'actrice Elizabeth Taylor, lundi après-midi, au palais de Skhirat, à 25 km de Rabat. Elizabeth Taylor était arrivée vendredi au Maroc pour assister à la réception offerte samedi à Tanger par le magnat américain Malcolm Forbes, à l'occasion de son 70ème anniversaire.

Bibliothèque. La future grande bibliothèque de France, inaugurée pour 1995, recueillera les onze millions de livres et périodiques actuellement conservés à la Bibliothèque Nationale. Le siège de cette dernière n'abritera plus que les manuscrits, estampes, monnaies et médailles. La grande bibliothèque, située dans l'est parisien, sera celle des écrits et de l'audiovisuel.

Démocratie. Deux mille jeunes venus du monde entier ont assisté, lundi soir à Paris, au lancement d'une opération destinée à célébrer la démocratie et les Droits de l'Homme. Organisée par quatre associations mondiales de jeunesse et baptisée Paris-89, la manifestation devrait voir défiler quelque 10.000 visiteurs, pendant 6 jours. Trois mille participants ont planté leur tente à l'hippodrome d'Auteuil qui accueille aussi un village des cinq continents où sont installés les stands de près de 300 organisations culturelles, politiques ou humanitaires.

William et Simone. Un couple américain a survécu pendant 66 jours à bord d'un canot de sauvetage, se nourrissant de poisson cru et d'eau de mer purifiée, après le naufrage de leur bateau de plaisance, d'eau de mer purifiée, après le naufrage de leur bateau de plaisance, d'eau de mer purifiée, après le naufrage de leur bateau de plaisance.

Il est fort Lulu. Le Britannique Jennie Reeves a été sacré dimanche à Saint-Sebastien (Pays Basque espagnol) "l'homme le plus fort du monde", l'emportant sur sept autres gros bras venus d'Europe et des Etats-Unis. Rien n'a été assez lourd pour cette fête du biceps: pendant trois jours les candidats ont renversé des voitures, soulevé d'énormes troncs d'arbres, couru avec une marmitte de 150 kg dans chaque main, tiré un camion et maintenu à bout de bras de gigantesques freinsages.

Rencontre avec le cinéaste Hail Ajlouni

La porte étroite du cinéma jordanien

Peintre, poète, écrivain, scénariste, Hail Ajlouni vient de tourner son premier film. Et veut croire au développement du cinéma en Jordanie. Même s'il lui faut faire face au peu d'espace technique ou financier offert au septième art, et lutter contre l'invasion des séries télévisées égyptiennes et contre le magnétoscope.

Cheveux poivre et sel, les yeux plissés derrière ses lunettes, tantôt la pipe tantôt la cigarette à la main, Hail Ajlouni a le look intellectuel. Et l'esprit artistique. Dans sa confortable villa de Sweileh, il vit avec son épouse Iman, comédienne, entourée de ses peintures, ses dessins, ses livres, ses poèmes, ses scénarios... et, depuis quelques mois, de la cassette de son premier long-métrage (voir ci-dessous).

Un film, qui concrétise des années de travail, d'espoirs souvent déçus et de véritable militance pour imposer le septième art en Jordanie. En butte au néant cinématographique et à contre-courant des séries télévisées qui inondent le marché national, il a maintenu le cap et tourné en février dernier "La Fleur piétinée", avec une petite équipe de 75 personnes, dont 40 comédiens professionnels et amateurs, et un modeste budget de 10.000 dinars.

Et ce, dans les règles de l'art: storyboard complet, direction d'acteurs, musique originale écrite par Wasel Abou Nawar du groupe Mirage, montage et mixage. Seul regret du réalisateur: avoir dû utiliser la vidéo. "Je n'avais pas de caméra 16 mm, explique-t-il. Ceci dit, si j'avais pu tourner avec du bon matériel, j'aurais été dans l'impossibilité de finir le travail en Jordanie, où il n'existe aucun laboratoire de cinéma."

La passion d'Hail Ajlouni pour

l'image est une déjà longue histoire, intimement liée au goût de la peinture que lui a transmis sa mère dès sa plus tendre enfance. "J'avais à peine 10 ans quand, un jour, j'ai trouvé au bout de film dans la rue, près d'un cinéma d'Amman. En voyant les images en transparence, j'ai compris comment ça fonctionnait."

De retour à la maison, il met la famille à contribution. "J'ai demandé à mon père de m'acheter du cellophane. A ma mère, j'ai emprunté deux grosses bobines de fil en bois. J'ai collé des lamelles de cellophane bout à bout, sur lesquelles j'ai peint les

histoires que me racontaient mes parents, telles que "Leila et les Jours" ou les "Mille et une nuits". Une grosse boîte, percée sur un côté, une pile électrique à l'intérieur, le "film" qui court d'une bobine à l'autre en passant devant le faisceau de lumière, et le tour était joué.

Ou plutôt, le premier club de quartier était né à Amman. Pendant plus d'un an, Hail animera des après-midi cinématographiques pour une vingtaine de gamins du voisinage. "A l'époque, c'était la peinture qui me motivait le plus", précise-t-il. Une voie dans laquelle sa famille

l'encouragera, tout comme certains de ses professeurs. "De 13 à 17 ans, je me souviens avoir pris le pinceau tous les jours, ou presque".

A 16 ans, Hail Ajlouni quitte la Jordanie pour Beyrouth où il passe deux mois "à découvrir un autre monde" et où il prend la décision de finir ses études... au Caire. "J'y ai passé mon baccalauréat tout en suivant des cours de dessin à l'école Leonard de Vinci". Cours qu'il interrompra pour aller à l'université de l'année scolaire, sans que Rabi'a ait pu lui offrir le cadeau qu'elle lui préparait, et qui symbolise sa renaissance.

Chronique de la vie quotidienne, sur fond d'étude sociologique et psychologique, "La Fleur piétinée" est un film soigné et boursé d'idées. Ses gros défauts: avoir été tourné en vidéo et accumuler les symboles de façon systématique et abusive.

"La Fleur piétinée": peinture des mœurs

Jeune citadin, Adnan est le corps étranger qui va bouleverser les rôles solidement ancrés de chacun. Choqué par la persécution de la jeune femme, il refuse notamment l'invitation à dîner des villageois. La tension grandit chaque jour entre ces derniers et "l'intrus".

Seule lueur à l'horizon: les enfants, qui peu à peu, sous l'influence de leur instituteur, dépassent la folle peur de l'école. Une lueur qui ne parvient pas pour autant à supprimer l'hostilité et l'incompréhension des habitants. Il faudra le geste dramatique du frère de Rabi'a, soldat irascible, qui un soir, braque son arme sur elle. Le tir

est détourné par Adnan et marque le début de prise de conscience du village. Peu à peu, Rabi'a revient à la vie et s'attache inconsciemment au jeune instituteur. Adnan, lui, quitte le village à l'issue de l'année scolaire, sans que Rabi'a ait pu lui offrir le cadeau qu'elle lui préparait, et qui symbolise sa renaissance.

Chronique de la vie quotidienne, sur fond d'étude sociologique et psychologique, "La Fleur piétinée" est un film soigné et boursé d'idées. Ses gros défauts: avoir été tourné en vidéo et accumuler les symboles de façon systématique et abusive.

en 1963, il repart aussitôt pour l'Espagne, via l'Italie. Une fois à Madrid, il s'inscrit aux Beaux-Arts où il étudie pendant 4 ans. Si la peinture prend l'ascendant, le cinéma n'a pas pour autant disparu de l'univers d'Hail Ajlouni. "En Egypte, j'allais voir six films par semaine en moyenne. J'assistais au festival du Caire où j'ai rencontré le réalisateur de West Side Story et quelques autres, se rappelle-t-il. A Madrid, j'ai appris l'espagnol dans les salles obscures."

Illusions perdues

Revenu au pays, le jeune artiste jordanien a la tête remplie de films du monde entier et de projets. "Je voulais être à la fois peintre et écrivain, voire musicien. Le cinéma m'est apparu comme le meilleur moyen de concilier le tout", confie-t-il. Aussi n'hésite-t-il pas une seconde quand on lui propose de rentrer comme décorateur à la toute récente télévision jordanienne. "J'y ai travaillé jusqu'en 1985, tout en participant à plus de 250 longs-métrages tunisiens, libanais, irakiens..."

Enthousiaste, il écrit des scénarios qu'il confie à des réalisateurs de télévision. "Le résultat

a été désastreux. Il ne restait parfois plus rien de mon histoire, découpée en morceaux, sans respect ni pour la forme ni pour le sens", regrette-t-il. Epuisé, Hail Ajlouni pense de plus en plus à se lancer de son côté dans le septième art. "Avec de bons scripts et du bon matériel". Plus, il décide de construire son propre cinéma, au pied de sa villa.

Rien n'y fait. La poignée d'amis avec lesquels il travaille pendant une vingtaine de mois, désemparés, ont décidé de faire du film et ont renoncé à toute éthique, remarque-t-il amèrement. Quant à la salle climatisée, dans laquelle il avait investi des dizaines de milliers de dinars, elle restera désespérément vide. "Même avec entrée gratuite, personne n'est venu".

L'erreur d'Hail Ajlouni, si elle n'est que la conséquence d'une intransigence professionnelle du cinéaste. Militant bec et ongles pour un cinéma de qualité, il a toujours refusé de projeter des films commerciaux. "Il est vrai que les Jordaniens n'ont aucune éducation au cinéma. Ils sont submergés par les séries égyptiennes, des kilomètres de pellicule sans originalité, sans valeur artistique", reconnaît-il.

Son premier film en vidéo, il ne perd pas espoir de voir un jour le cinéma prendre racine dans le royaume. "Le nouveau premier ministre aime le septième art et fera peut-être un effort pour le lancer", espère-t-il. En attendant, Hail Ajlouni se bat sur tous les fronts pour présenter "La Fleur piétinée" au public. "La télé l'a pris, mais j'ai dû moi-même faire une copie pour eux; je l'ai envoyée dans les pays du Golfe, en Syrie, en Irak et j'attends toujours les réponses; j'organise une projection-débat jeudi soir au club orthodoxe d'Abdoun à 19h00". Le tout à ses propres frais, et en préparant déjà son prochain film. On appelle ça une vocation.

Alain Renou.

Musée lapidaire à Jérash

Faire d'une pierre deux coups

Six jeunes français ont entrepris depuis plus d'une semaine les travaux de déblaiement et de terrassement du futur musée lapidaire de Jérash. Un projet destiné à sauver de la destruction le plus grand nombre possible de pierres et d'inscriptions antiques, qui inaugure par le même occasion une nouvelle forme d'échange culturel entre l'Hexagone et la Jordanie.

Les voyages... et les chantiers forment la jeunesse. Au moment même où six jeunes Jordaniens renaissent de France, après un séjour d'un mois dans le Massif Central pour trois d'entre eux et dans les Vosges pour les autres, autant de jeunes français, âgés de 18 à 25 ans, sont arrivés en Jordanie pour donner le premier coup de pioche au musée lapidaire de Jérash.

Organisé conjointement par le service culturel de l'ambassade de France à Amman et le ministère jordanien de la Jeunesse, encouragé par la Reine Noor en personne, ce chassé-croisé constitue une première dans les échanges de ce type entre les deux pays. Avec en pivot, l'association française REMPART, qui depuis 1966 se consacre à "la sauvegarde, la réhabilitation et l'animation du patrimoine

architectural et archéologique" en France et dans une dizaine d'autres pays.

Du 15 juillet au 15 août, c'est elle qui a pris en charge l'hébergement et l'intégration des Jordaniens dans les équipes travaillant sur les sites de Sagone, dans la Nievre, et de Chatelet et Lafache dans les Vosges. Tout comme elle a "recruté" les jeunes volontaires, qui depuis plus d'une semaine déblaient les trois terrasses contiguës au musée de Jérash et où seront installés fragments de sarcophages, blocs gravés et autres autels antiques.

Lyceens, étudiants, secrétaire

et institutrice, ils et elles ont choisi de passer, qui trois semaines, qui un mois de leurs vacances dans le royaume. Des vacances un tantinet laborieuses: "On nettoie avec l'aide de cinq ou six ouvriers de l'équipe archéologique française, avant d'aménager la nouvelle entrée et de planter de nouvelles rangées d'arbres, explique l'un d'eux. Le travail commence aux alentours de 7h30, jusqu'à midi".

C'est la toute première phase du projet, précise Hussein Qandil, chargé par le Département des Antiquités de prêter assistance au groupe. Nous réorganisons l'espace selon les plans dessinés par l'équipe de l'ITFAPO (Institut français d'archéologie au Proche-Orient), avant de passer à l'installation du musée proprement dit."

Un musée en plein air, dont l'objectif principal est de sauver de la destruction le "maximum de pierres", comme l'écrit l'épigraphiste français Pierre-Louis Gathier, dans une étude menée sur le terrain au mois de juillet.

Chargé de recenser les blocs qui constitueront la collection, l'universitaire lyonnais souligne notamment "l'ampleur des disparitions" et des détériorations de nombreuses pièces dispersées sur le site antique et dans la ville moderne.

Logés dans les bungalows des Antiquités jordanien, Aude, Sophie, Eric, Jean-François, Catherine et Constance, se disent quant à eux satisfaits de leur début de séjour. Motivés par "l'envie de fouiller", de "rencontrer des Jordaniens" ou tout simplement de "voyager", ils découvrent un pays qu'ils ne connaissent pas. "On se balade tous les week-ends avec Hussein, à la Mer Morte, Ajloun, Amman..." Les loisirs font aussi partie du contrat.

A.R.

Première exploration de Neptune

Un vrai temps de chien

Enorme dépression, tempêtes en séries, ciels nuageux... Le "temps de chien", qui règne sur Neptune et dont témoignent les photographies prises par la sonde américaine "Voyager 2", rend les scientifiques perplexes. Tout comme surpris l'extraordinaire longévité de l'engin, lancé en 1977, et qui n'est plus ce jeudi qu'à environ 5.000 km de la planète la plus éloignée du Soleil.

Tout a commencé par les découvertes d'un satellite, d'anneaux partiels, d'un champ magnétique puis d'une "grande tache sombre" similaire à l'auréole rouge de Jupiter et identifiée comme étant une gigantesque dépression. Depuis, les scientifiques du Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) de Pasadena, en Californie, vont de surprise en surprise. Les derniers clichés envoyés sur Terre par la sonde "Voyager 2" font en effet état de tempêtes, accompagnées de nuages, qui semblent indiquer la présence d'une source de chaleur inconnue sur Neptune.

Le phénomène suscite la perplexité des chercheurs, qui rappellent que la planète partage avec Pluton la position la plus éloignée du Soleil et par conséquent la plus glaciale. Seule hypothèse envisagée pour expliquer une telle nébulosité: la con-

jonction de la faible chaleur solaire et de l'activité volcanique à la surface de Neptune, qui produirait une température suffisante pour engendrer des nuages dans l'atmosphère de méthane de la planète bleutée.

L'extraordinaire odyssée de "Voyager 2" se révèle être à ce jour le succès le plus éclatant des programmes américains d'exploration du système solaire. Petite sonde de moins d'une tonne et qui a coûté en tout et pour tout un demi milliard de dollars (soit le prix d'un bombardier "invisibles" B2), elle avait été lancée en 1977 pour survoler Saturne. Encouragée par son fonctionnement irréprochable, la NASA a prolongé sa mission, d'abord vers Uranus, puis vers Neptune.

Et ce, malgré les quelque 4 milliards de km qui la séparent désormais de la Terre et qui rendent les communications plus difficiles. Les ordres transmis à "Voyager" mettent quatre heures à lui parvenir et autant pour revenir sur Terre.

L'aventure de la sonde américaine n'est pourtant pas finie. Après Neptune, ce sera l'inconnu, dans lequel cette "bouteille à l'espace", porteuse d'un enregistrement de chansons et de paroles terrestres de bienvenue, voyageera probablement pendant des millions d'années.

Vingt-quatre heures sur vingt-quatre

La tente du libraire



La tente a l'air dépenaillée, comme si elle avait été plantée à la va vite à même le sol; les livres sont disposés en «éclatée organisée... Une forme comme une autre pour les vendre. Ouverte à tous les vents et vingt-quatre heures sur vingt-quatre, entre le xième et le septième cercles. Difficile en effet de fermer la nuit, comme l'explique Arafat Shahadeh Arafat, responsable de cette librairie en plein air et fidèle au poste, même si rares sont les insomniaques. A défaut d'un large éventail, il propose des ouvrages neufs et pointus sur la religion (dont certains en anglais), l'agriculture, les sciences, la littérature, ainsi que des collections pour les enfants, pour la plupart importées d'Egypte mais aussi de Syrie, du Liban et d'Irak. L'idée est simple: porter les livres au devant du public. Une idée qui revient à la librairie du «Burge», près du troisième cercle. Chaque été, pendant trois ou quatre mois, son propriétaire transfère une partie de ses stocks et l'un de ses vendeurs sous une tente, ici ou là dans la capitale. L'hiver prochain, pour la première fois, Arafat Shahadeh Arafat tiendra également une annexe dans les Jardins du roi Abdoullah.

Nur Sati.

Librairie en plein air, à droite en venant du septième cercle, juste avant la mosquée.

Mots croisés

par Florence Montiel

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1										
2										
3										
4										
5										
6										
7										
8										
9										
10										

Horizontalement.

1: devoir; 2: elles mènent toutes à Rome; 3: négation; dans latin; géniteur; 4: allonger; infinitif; 5: conduisent; 6: nattes; 7: dieu du soleil; au bout du sein; 8: tirer du lait; Ecole Nationale d'Administration; 9: se rendront; 10: on la demande aux enfants boudeurs; coordonne.

(Solution en bas de page)

Verticalement.

A: décorer; B: on y danse, ou on y met les conserves; C: avant; approuvé; pénétrais; D: chemin; E: le mari de ma fille; de préférence; après la tétée; F: champion; de; meurent; G: réfléchit; pronom personnel; H: colère; boîte à idées; I: dans la gamme; carillonne; J: refutera; mot enfantin.

A L'AFFICHE

CINEMA

Raging bull, de Martin Scorsese, avec Robert De Niro, Cathy Moriarty, Nicholas Colasanto, Joe Pesci et Frank Vincent. Quand un homme, persuadé que survivre implique de donner des coups, frappe tout autour les boxeurs qu'il affronte sur le ring que sa femme ou ses amis. Plutôt violent.

Centre américain, jeudi 24 et dimanche 27 août à 19h00 (en anglais, interdit aux moins de 18 ans).

Die Abfahrer, d'Adolf Winkelmann (1978). Deux amis, grec et allemand, chômeurs et sans perspective, décident une nuit de voler un camping car pour fuir leur misère... et la meute des policiers et des "bonhommes gens" qui se lance à leurs trousses.

Initiales Gotha, mardi 29 août à 20h00 (en allemand, sous-titré en anglais).

Ciné-club. Le cinéma, miroir des autres arts (suite et fin). Séances respectivement à 13h00, 15h00, 17h00, 19h00 et 21h00.

Jeudi 24: Tommy; Towering inferno; Carpal knowledge; Around the world in 80 days; One flew over the cuckoo's nest.

Vendredi 25: L'Héritage; Chroniques mar-

tiennes; Conan, the barbarian; (PNC); Mort à Venise.

Samedi 26: Sans alla tub (egyptien); This sport life; Al munda (egyptien); Chroniques maritimes; Rosemary's baby.

Dimanche 27: Dimanche 27: Al Saqa mat (egyptien); Kid's night; the last emperor; Greylock; Docteur Jivago.

Lundi 28: The treasure of Sierra Madre; Major Dorn; Zulu's morning; The comrade; Ryan's daughter.

Mardi 29: The great creator; Shambo; Ecran; uita; Ves.

Mercredi 30: Potemkine; Gilda; Sacré Graal; Food of God; Far from the Madding crowd.

Films en version originale. Tél 643901. Route de l'université, à droite après l'hôtel Jerusalem puis première à gauche, 380 m.

TELEVISION

L'ingénieur aimait trop les chiffres, de Michel Favart, d'après le roman de Boileau-Narcejac, avec Roberto Alpi et Jean-Pierre Bisson (1989). Un scientifique de haut niveau est assassiné dans un laboratoire de recherche nucléaire. Difficile enquête pour l'inspecteur Mareuil dans un univers secret et suspicieux...

JTV, vendredi 25 août à 17h30.

Solution des mots croisés

Horizontalement.

1: obligation; 2: routes; 3: ni; in; père; 4: étendre; cr; 5: menèrent; 6: tresses; 7: R4; 8: ton; 8: traire; 9: iron; 10: rissette; et.

Verticalement.

A: orocenter; B: boîte; C: lu; entra; D: itinéraire; E: gendre; rot; F: as; restent; G: pense; H: ire; 10: tte; 11: sonne; J: niera, na.

الأمل

By Larry Rohrer

Gabriel Garcia Márquez, cineaste

MEXICO CITY — Three years ago, as he was working on the novel "The General in His Labyrinth," Gabriel Garcia Márquez found himself with extra time on his hands.

Every morning he would sit down at his word processor to write, and at night he pored through letters, books and documents about Simon Bolívar, the liberator of Latin America who is the central figure of the book.

But during many an afternoon, the Nobel laureate ended up doing duty as a screen-writer, simultaneously crafting scripts for one but six films. The result of that burst of cinematic activity is a series called "Amores Dificiles" which can be seen in New York as part of the monthlong Festival Latino at the Public Theatre.

Working with well-known directors from Brazil, Colombia, Cuba, Mexico, Spain and Venezuela, who share the screenplay credits with him, the Colombian novelist, 61, was able to indulge, perhaps never before in his career, a lifelong passion for the movies.

Though Garcia Márquez's international reputation stems from his fiction, he describes himself as an inveterate booster of the Latin American film and a cineaste at heart. Over the last two decades, he has collaborated with some of the directors involved in the "Amores Dificiles" series on screen projects aimed at bringing his words to the screen, a diversion he said he always finds a

welcome change of pace.

"I don't think any producer has made six feature-length films in one year, but that's what we did," he said recently at his home in Mexico City. "I wouldn't want to try it again, but it was worth it just to know you could do a project like this in Latin America."

If there is a single overriding concern in the Latin American novel, it is that of human beings struggling to find their place in societies where any venture, from love to politics, is likely to end badly.

As Garcia Márquez sees it, the best films draw from the same wellspring. "The principal problem we have in Latin America is finding our identity," he said. "That is what we are looking for here. Who are we? What are we like?"

In all probability, only a figure with the prestige of Garcia Márquez could have broken through the barriers that traditionally have kept Latin American film in conditions of provincialism and penury.

Latin America is a highly fragmented movie market, in which governments typically impose protectionist limits on the entry of films from neighbouring countries, while financial problems stemming from foreign debt make them reluctant to support their own domestic film industries.

But "Amores Dificiles," which has been translated into English



In six scripts, the novelist probes Latin American identity

as "Dangerous Loves," has the look of a film series in which the available resources match the imagination of the creators. There are striking underwater and aerial sequences, as well as an overwhelming awareness of colour that captures the exuberance of the tropics.

"Although we were not ostentatious, there were no financial problems, no limitations, and that is unusual," said Lisandro Duque, the Colombian who is directing one of the films. "In Latin America we are used to doing a lot with very little, with maintaining a sobriety in the budget that is often out of step

with the themes we are addressing."

"The only thing I have ever studied almost to completion in my entire life is the cinema," said Garcia Márquez.

He was breaking the silence he had imposed on himself after the publication this spring of the Bolívar novel, which showed Latin America's greatest hero as a man of foibles rather than the ascetic saint of history books.

"I didn't study literature at the university. I studied law for three years. Then I studied at the Experimental Centre for the Cinema in Rome, and later on I taught

at the film school of the National University here in Mexico," where he has lived, on and off, since the 1960s.

The films might never have been made were it not for Garcia Márquez's continuing involvement with the Foundation for the New Latin American Film. He has been president of that organisation, which operates an institute for aspiring Latin American filmmakers just outside Havana since its founding in 1985, and spends six weeks there each year, teaching a workshop on screen-writing.

"The idea of the foundation is to forge a unitary Latin American cinema, recognising that each nation has its own characteristics and culture, but taking into account the common features," he said. "I think the reason our cinema has not flourished until now is this continental division, with nothing but dispersed efforts. Obviously, all of this forms part of a bigger idea I have, which is the total integration of Latin America, as Bolívar saw it."

It is not possible, Garcia Márquez said, to create "a single film aesthetic" to encompass all of Latin America. But with the proper encouragement and working conditions, he believes, Latin American filmmakers can achieve the same prominence and impact around the world that novelists and musicians from the

region have over the last 25 years.

"The distance between the tango and salsa is enormous, but it's all recognised as Latin American music," he said.

Guest lecturers at the institute have included movie professionals ranging from Francis Ford Coppola and Robert Redford to Jean-Claude Carrière, former screenwriter for Luis Buñuel.

But money — for equipment, scholarships and travel — is always a problem, and Garcia Márquez saw "Dangerous Loves" as a way to alleviate it.

"This project was born of necessity," he said. "We needed money for the school, which spends between \$500,000 and \$750,000 a year." When Spanish television made the right offer, he agreed to the project as a way to promote the foundation and relieve some of its financial pressures.

As indicated by the title of the series, Garcia Márquez has taken as his subject the most profound of human emotions, in forms ranging from erotic ardor to parental tenderness and fraternal camaraderie — but always with an emphasis on dark passion.

Of the six films, all of which are based either on short stories or chronicles that Garcia Márquez has written or are taken from fragments of his novels, four end violently, with leading characters being killed, and even in the others, death pervades the atmosphere — The New York Times.

Pesticides in drinking water

By Carl Graf Hobenthal

PEOPLE usually start worrying about the damage they do to the environment when it is almost too late.

North Sea pollution only hit the headlines when seals died en masse and their corpses were washed ashore on holiday resort beaches.

Pollution of the Rhine, which had been going on for years, only attracted attention when fish died after a fire at a pharmaceutical factory in Basle, Switzerland.

Much the same can be said of the tap-water we use without a second thought, not just to drink but to wash the car or to spray the lawn.

Yet the increase in ground water pollution by insecticides and other chemicals with which cash crops are sprayed ought to worry us all.

Germany is in the fortunate position of having plenty of water.

The estimated five billion cubic metres of water used annually by domestic and industrial consumers comes from 28 billion cubic metres of ground water.

But intensive fertilisation of farmland has resulted in little or no water not being polluted in one way or another.

Federal Environment Minister Klaus Töpel has often said that our aim must be to stop feeding pesticides and nitrates into the ground water, but this is an aim that has long ceased to be realistic.

So the authorities have been left with no choice but to make very low pollution ceilings mandatory. From October the limit will be 0.1 microgram of an individual pesticide per litre, or 0.5 microgram of a combination of substances.

This is the equivalent of a lump of sugar in the holds of a supertanker. It is virtually the smallest quantity that can be identified using the latest laboratory equipment.

It was specified because pesticides are generally felt to be carcinogenic, and health risks were to be ruled out whatever happened.

These have since been several clashes with the opposition, which argues that pesticides and nitrates in these quantities are still sufficiently dangerous to need banning.

This demand would seem absurd against the background of a European common agricultural policy that makes countries keen to produce ever larger quantities of foodgrain and other crops.

A total ban on pesticides and

fertilisers is also inconceivable because population growth is so dramatic that politicians have no choice but to consider how best to feed the world's billions better.

Farmers' unions will bear nothing of a threat to the ground water but they too are wondering what can be done.

An "integrated agriculture" group has warned that near-zero ceilings or total bans would restrict the farmers' possibilities of devising strategies to limit the damage. Crops must be grown in combination as a natural means of pest control. Besides, all farmers are said to have a vested interest in ensuring that expensive fertiliser plant growth, and doesn't just stop.

That may be true, but in day-to-day work farmers are in no real position to measure up to the demands made upon them.

Every soil and each plant needs a different fertiliser. Modern farmers are at times seen hacking away at pocket calculators in a bid to work out the right fertiliser dosage for a given field.

Yet most farmers still go by the rule of thumb "better too much than too little." The more the better and, as a result, ground water pollution has not been reduced to the extent required.

At the Environment Ministry and among the opposition forces have been voiced that exemptions may take the cutting edge off the strict limits envisaged from October.

Some scientists feel the new limits are too strict in any case, being geared to what is technically feasible rather than to what makes health sense.

At this point the debate becomes a dispute between scientists that leaves the layman way out of his depth. It is, moreover, a dispute which shows that an opportunity of ruling out water pollution entirely has been missed.

A substance that has once found its way into the ground water can never be filtered out entirely.

So Germans will continue to have to drink pesticide in their tapwater, no matter how infinitesimal the toxin count. That is the price we must pay for pursuing agricultural policies geared to what is possible rather than to what makes sense.

Health-Ministry exemptions can only be a stopgap solution. All arrangements will be to no avail unless farmers change their minds and agree to spread less fertiliser — Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland.

For Japanese-Americans, apologies but no cash

By Seth Mydans

New York Times

LOS ANGELES — For more than 50 years, Kinuyo Hokoda waited for the fulfilment of her years in a California detention camp to fade, for the acknowledgement that her adopted country was wrong to confine 112,000 Japanese-Americans in World War II.

A year after President Ronald Reagan apologised and Congress agreed to pay \$20,000 to each former detainee to compensate for lost freedom, jobs, belongings and land, Mrs. Hokoda was still waiting.

No one has been paid. The promised funds, victims of a tight federal budget, have yet to be appropriated, and the \$20 million being proposed falls short of the \$25 billion needed.

"We trust America, but we doubt," Mrs. Hokoda said. "We want the American government to give to us, but too long over the years now. We doubt. We wait. We are not sure now."

Each month, the Justice Department's Office of Redress Administration in Washington does more than 200 of the survivors of the camps are dying unrepentant.

"A lot of people died," said Mrs. Hokoda, who is 87 and now husband, Masaru G. Hokoda, a former gardener in Hollywood, is 91. "They all experienced the cruel time, the war time. They tried to forget that terrible time, tried to forget, but lately they have been remembering again."

"Forty years ago we had a

experience, but we are still loyal to the United States, that is sure."

Under the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, Congress pledged restitution to the 60,000 Americans of Japanese descent who were incarcerated in the war in "relocation camps" and were still alive when the bill was passed.

The bulk of those interned were held from 1942—soon after Pearl Harbour—through early 1946, several months after World War II had ended. There were kept in guarded camps surrounded by barbed wire in the deserts of the West.

The payments are to go to the survivors of any internees who die after the passage of the legislation.

The number who die before they are paid could be large.

President George Bush has asked Congress for only \$20 million in this year's budget, enough to pay just 1,000 of the former detainees. Congress has not yet acted.

The funds, when appropriated, would be paid first to the oldest of the internees.

Representative Robert T. Matsui, Democrat of California, who was also interned, said that under this structure the proposed sum would be enough to pay only those older than 87.

"We don't quite understand that," Mrs. Hokoda said. "President Reagan promised, but the government does not do it."

Mr. and Mrs. Hokoda are among more than 250 former detainees who make up the majority of the residents of the Japanese Retirement Home and its related buildings in central Los Angeles, near Little Tokyo, the

city's traditional Japanese quarter.

The home's administrator, Edwin Hiroto, who was detained at the age of 15 with his parents, said he perceived the roundups of Japanese-Americans as a symptom of wartime hysteria that brought out a shameful side of American society.

He said he was seeing it again in the delay of payments, "a repetition of the same kind of treatment that was accorded to my parents as they tried to be good citizens."

"I guess any group because of race can be picked out, for whatever reason, to be treated as different from the rest of citizens," he said.

People like his parents, and like many of the older residents of the retirement home, he said, reacted passively to their detention. "If you're accustomed to being not quite 100 per cent accepted in the first place, it sort of becomes normal," he said.

Mr. Hiroto said he observed a similar passivity now among the old people at the homes as they wait for their payments, a sense of "shikata ga nai," a stoic acceptance of one's fate, an understanding that there is nothing to be done.

"It's kind of late, but I'm waiting patiently," said Midori Shimozono, 72, who retired four years ago from her work at a florist shop.

"My mother passed away last March, so she died without getting anything," Mrs. Shimozono said. "That's something you can't help. But she did feel badly. She had nothing to do with the war."

In the camps, surrounded by barbed wire, Mrs. Hiroto said,



Japanese-Americans "we are still loyal to the United States."

many internees were "traumatized by that idea that we were really so different."

And yet, like others at the retirement home, he said he felt "totally American," even to the point of sharing a national resentment at Japan's current economic aggressiveness.

Representative Norman Y. Mineta, Democrat of California, who was also interned, said, "In 1942 the government put this cloak of disloyalty on the backs of Americans of Japanese ancestry, yet they collectively said, 'Look, in the long run we're going to prove that we are good citizens.'"

But he said that it seemed to him that the government was "breaking faith with the internees in terms of the payments."

A model existence on high

By Bryony Coleman

WHO says the air hostess is the one with the most? Her job has been traditionally seen as the tops for girls hot for glamour, travel and rich husbands. It once rivalled modelling: often it was hard to distinguish between the two. Newspapers lavished whole spreads on long-limbed lovelies parading the latest in designer air-wear. But what lies behind the erotic-exotic myth of the stewardess, coiffed, sophisticated and dreamily available, leisurely distributing magazines, reassurance and come-hither smiles?

The first stewardess was airborne in 1930 in San Francisco. Young Nurse Church decided that airlines needed "competent women aboard to feed aspirins to queasy customers." Enter Boeing-United's Sky Girls, registered nurses clad in white uniforms and green woolly capes and berets. One recalled: "We had to carry all the baggage on board and if the seats weren't fastened down tightly, we had to screw them down ourselves." Other chores included dusting and mending the planes and helping pilots push them back in hangars.

Passengers welcomed to the calm and captivating professionals (one regular changed the wording of his pre-take-off prayers when the stewardesses appeared). Pilot's wives, wary of mile-high dalliances, vigorously and vainly petitioned the airline for the women's removal. British air hostesses took off eight years later — RAF-trained nurses in harsh suits, "restrained" make-up and sturdy shoes.

When size, speed and accessibility of air travel increased after the war, the demand for practical qualifications grew less stringent. The hostess became a hybrid angel of mercy and bunny girl, her ability to take pulses rivalled by her ability to make them race as she dished out meals and

drinks. A 1956 Pan-Am recruitment form demanded: "Are you outstandingly good-looking?" "Are you fond of tennis and dancing?" "Do you mind speaking to strange men?" Mind? Reader, they even married them.

Airline advertising grew increasingly pimpish. From Dan Air's, "I'm Cheryl. Fly Me," to Continental Airlines' "We really move our tails for you" to "I wish they all could be Caledonian Girls," companies competed like bachelors in a Bond-slave market. Sometimes things went too far. In the early Seventies, one U.S. airline proposed topless hostesses — The Guardian.

JORDAN MARKET PLACE

all your:
Packing,
Air Freight Forwarding,
Customs Clearance,
Door-to-door Service,
Ticketing and
Reservation needs,
please call:
MIN KAWAR & SONS
Abdul Hamid Sharaf Street
Shamsiyeh
P.O. Box 750
Amman, Jordan
Tel: 604676, 604678

CROWN INT'L EST.
packing, shipping,
forwarding, storing,
clearing, door-to-door
service
Agents all over the world
Tel: 604090, Fax: 604082
Tlx: 2205 BESMCO JO
P.O. Box 52847
AMMAN JORDAN

EVERY DAY
PEOPLE WHO NEED
MAINTENANCE
SERVICES
CALL US!
Electrolux
P.O. Box 825229 AMMAN
Tel: 604671

STUDIO HAIG
Professional Quality in
1 Hour Service
Develop your colour film at
our shop and get:-
* **JUMBO photo**
size 30% larger
* **Free enlargement**
20 x 30 cm
Shmeisani - Opp. Grindlays
Bank. Phone: 604042
Swedish tel: 823891

ONLY WE HAVE UNIQUE AND
INNOVATIVE ITEMS, EXCEL-
LANT QUALITY AND COMPETITIVE
PRICES AT
CARAVAN ORIENTAL
WHERE YOU CAN FIND
OLIVE WOOD, MOTHER OF
PEARL, AND ALL KINDS OF
HANDICRAFT PRODUCTS
At Al-Husseini Youth City
Amman Tel: 822551

مطعم قصر الصين
CHINA PALACE RESTAURANT
CANTON, HONGKONG,
PEKING, HUNAN STYLE
Authentic Chinese cuisine
Delicious Chinese cuisine
All in dining - no extra charge
special appetizer - chicken, beef & fish
with special crispy duck
Open 11:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
7:00 p.m. - 11:30 p.m.
Closes Friday
Tel: 604021/Amman, Shamsiyeh
opposite Commodore Hotel

Slide film Processing by Konica
Same Day Service
for all E6 films at
Salbashian
Trading Co.
Wadi Sagra str.
Next to Petra Bank
Headquarters
Tel: 633418

For the best
for your
MONEY...
ADVERTISE
in the

RESTAURANT CHINA
The first & best
Chinese Restaurant
in Jordan
1st Circle Jada' Amman near
Alyah Girls School
Take away is available
Open daily 12:00-3:30
p.m.
6:30-Midnight
Tel: 333958

慕堂餐廳
MANDARIN
Chinese Restaurant
The only typical Chinese
cuisine in Amman.
Chinese Flaming pot is available
Take away available
Open daily 12:00 - 15:30
18:00 - 23:30
Wadi Sagra Road - near Traffic
Bridge
Amman, Jordan
Tel: 661922

CHEN'S CHINESE RESTAURANT
Mecca Street, Yarmouk
Engineers' Housing
Estate, near Kilo
Supermarket
Mongolian Barbecue for Lunch Friday only
Tel: 618214
Come and taste our
specialties
Open daily 12:00 - 3:30
p.m.
6:30 - Midnight

CHINESE RESTAURANT
TAIWAN TOURISMO
Authentic Chinese Food
Korean Bar-B-Q
Charcoal Flaming Pot
Take-away service
Open daily Noon - 3:30 p.m.
& 6:30 p.m. - midnight
Location: Near 3rd Circle
opposite Akliah Hospital
Tel: 641093

Kashmiri Restaurant
FIRST CLASS INDIAN
RESTAURANT
Special Executive Luncheons
Take away service
available
Open Daily 12:30 - 3:30 pm
7:30 - 11:30 pm
After the Holiday Inn hotel
Towards 3rd circle
Tel: 659519 659520

MEXICAN FOOD
Between 1st & 2nd
Circle
Jabal Amman
Tel: 654205
Open For
LUNCH & DINNER

Jordan Times'
JORDAN MARKET PLACE

إعلان في الجريدة

Focus on People

A quest for continuity

By Mariam M. Shahin

This week Intisar Khalifeh talks to Focus on People about her home grown clothing industry, which has enabled as many as 50 women to become wage earners and thus ensure a better standard of living for themselves and their families.

UNTIL her four children "grew up" Intisar Khalifeh was a home maker, who was involved with charitable organisations when time permitted. "When all the children were out of the house, either married or at university, I knew it was the right time to pursue my entrepreneurial goals that I had always harboured," Khalifeh said.

Having had the opportunity to study fashion design in Italy after being married, Khalifeh was well equipped technically to pursue a career in design. "While I was studying the vogue designs in Rome I was well aware that I would one day want to apply my learned skills to our local dresses. So I began developing cuts that are applicable to our traditional dresses," Khalifeh recalls.

The "raison d'être" of Khalifeh's entrepreneurial pursuits were multifold. "I wanted in part to keep alive our heritage, not to let our traditional fashions become simply museum pieces. Women in Japan, Africa, India and a lot of other Asian countries have done their utmost to keep their traditional fashions part of their contemporary lives. In our part of the world that is less so. In Amman there are no more than a handful of women involved in commercially promoting our fashions, compared with the ladies who are actively importing fashions from outside the Arab World," Khalifeh says.

Considering the often great cost and effort exerted in creating a "thob" or "shursh," it is difficult to see how a cost-effective local industry could be created, but that is one aspect that Khalifeh had also thought of dealing with. "Our traditional clothing is very costly and heavy, and Arab women have accustomed themselves to being more 'lightly' dressed. The contemporary woman is interested in practical clothing which is reasonably priced," Khalifeh says.

In a predominantly conservative society, such as Jordan, practical clothing does not mean shorts of bermudas with skimpy blouses, even if the temperature is 35°C outside. The "dishdash" (the long dress, that may have sleeves to the elbow or the wrist) and the "shirwal" are what is called for here. Using locally made materials of various "vivid colours used in the rural and desert regions," Khalifeh, who began with a staff of four people in her office-workshop just across the road from the University of Jordan, now sends work to over 50 women in all parts of Jordan.

I say with great pride that through my modest efforts and guidance all these women are now able to become economic contributors to their households. Initially almost all the women that worked with me were middle-aged women from the camps. They were more knowledgeable about the embroidery, and other forms of decorative styles of our traditional dresses. The women who work with me have helped me a great deal to learn about new techniques in creating more contemporary fashions."

Times have changed for the traditional dresses and for Jordanian women as well. While Jordan probably has the highest percentage of female university graduates in the Arab World, and many women are increasingly contributing to the professional and commercial sectors, a large percentage are left with limited choices as how to pursue their careers but simply wage earning jobs. Many women are bound by parents or husbands to opt for certain jobs, which are increasingly more difficult to get. Many others cannot afford to leave home because there may not be anyone to look after the children. Consequently the ideal job is the one that can be done in the home.

An increasing number of younger women have come to Khalifeh "to be given work to do," Khalifeh says. "We have been very lucky because demand has multiplied a great deal over the last year and a half. Expatriates from the Gulf countries, Saudi Arabia and the United States have come to us in ever increasing numbers and made ever increasing orders. Monetarily it has become very inexpensive for them to buy our goods and it seems that at least among expatriates a new awakening about our culture has developed. The number of workers I have been subsequently able to employ has increased by 30 per cent."

Although previously camp women made up the majority of the workshop's employees, now middle class working women have increasingly come to Khalifeh hoping to supplement their salaries which no longer cover their bills. Along with the women, who often represent a different social and economic background come new tastes and likings where fashion is concerned.

"I have frequently experimented with different ideas of how we can reach a wider variety of people by creating new products, (embroidered hat hangings, purses, coasters and so forth), although our main production is of course according to demand, that is dresses and embroidered cushions," Khalifeh adds.

Having fulfilled her desire to be an asset to society above and beyond her role as a homemaker, Intisar Khalifeh has helped keep alive her people's cultural traditions and given others the chance to participate in that goal while earning a living. Several other women in Jordan have followed in her footsteps to make "Arab fashions" as much a part of Jordan's contemporary life as a part of its past. In their quest for continuity and ingenuity let us wish them success.

VACANCY NOTICE FOR SENIOR SECRETARIES WITH AN INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION

A regional office of an international organisation is seeking Senior Secretaries.

REQUIREMENTS:

Very proficient English and Arabic typing as well as excellent general command of English. Shorthand and word processing skills are essential; other micro-computer (MS-DOS) skills an asset.

Candidates who meet the above requirements should submit their bio-data in writing to the:

Personnel Section
P.O. Box 811721
Amman - Jordan

Not later than 6 September, 1989.



Clark Gable and Vivien Leigh in the film which has become a "private vice"



While the Southern belles slumber, Scarlett slips out for a clandestine meeting with Ashley Wilkes

Frankly, Rhett, we do give a damn

By Anne Karpf

IT WAS a significant adolescent rite of passage, the day I transferred my schoolgirl pash from *Gone With The Wind's* wimpy Ashley Wilkes to its sardonic Rhett Butler. But not, it seems, a freakish one: when Helen Taylor solicited views and memories about the American novel and film from British and American women, she received more than 400 replies, most testifying to the epic's power and role as a marker of key moments in their lives.

For more than 50 years women have used *Gone With The Wind* (GWTW) as a friend and intimate, a text to support and reflect their experience: and it seems to speak as eloquently to the generation of Margaret Thatcher and Alexis Colby as it did in the days of the bomb shelter and powdered egg.

Both book and film were instantly and hugely successful: the book, published in 1936, sold a million copies in the first six months, and 25 million more since. There are at least 155 editions, in 27 languages, published in 37 countries, and it won author Margaret Mitchell, who never wrote another book, the 1937 Pulitzer Prize. A sequel (by Alexandra Ripley, authorised by Mitchell's estate) is imminent. The film, which premiered in December 1939, has been seen by more people than the entire population of U.S. It's been subtitled into 24 languages, dubbed into six, was awarded eight Oscars, and is about to be re-

released on its 50th anniversary. And shame on the cultural illiterate who doesn't know who said to whom and when: "Frankly, my dear, I don't give a damn."

Helen Taylor, senior lecturer in literary studies at Bristol Polytechnic, was a young fan. She identified with its world of strong, independent women. But a two-year stay in Louisiana, as a graduate teacher in 1969, caused her to question its romanticised view of Southern antebellum society, swash with white-columned plantation houses, cotton fields full of happy slaves, and dashing cavalier beaux with their fluttering bolles. Her lively book *Scarlett's Women: Gone With The Wind And Its Female Fans* (Virago, £7.99) examines the GWTW phenomenon both as an inspirational text for women, and an ideological view of race and the American South.

At the hub of GWTW lies Scarlett O'Hara, an unconventional heroine implicitly contrasted with the saintly Melanie Wilkes. Scarlett seems to confound female stereotypes at every turn, even if sometimes by flagrant flirtation. One of Taylor's respondents called Scarlett "perhaps my first flawed heroine"; another saw her as "the first heroine I had read about who was ruthless, scheming and selfish," while a third found GWTW "the first book I ever read in which a woman is not just the 'heroine' but the prime mover of her story, using all the available means to be mistress of her own fate."

Again and again women wrote to her of their admiration for Scarlett's ability, which they themselves lacked, to get what she wants out of life, despite unrequited love, motherless isolation and loss of parent, child, friend, and husband. One reader said that she was "always glad when Scarlett danced when she should have been in mourning" (me too).

Taylor sees Scarlett as a prototype for the contemporary heroine of Jackie Collins and Barbara Taylor Bradford, a gritty and gutsy survivor who speaks to 1980s professional women, an amoral careerist and scheming entrepreneur whose aspirations are more traditionally masculine than feminine. But she also spoke to the readers and viewers of the 1930s and 1940s, offering hope for surviving the depression and war, and the promise of postwar reconstruction — the return to Tara.

Margaret Mitchell herself had ambivalent feelings towards the norms of femininity. A social flapper and heavy-drinker who dressed in men's trousers, she eschewed traditional Southern female skills like cooking and home decoration, and tried to write for the Atlanta Journal about strong iconoclastic women, drawing a stream of protests. She retreated into marriage, first to a dashing but sexually violent bootlegger, and then to a dependable worker with the Georgia Power and Light Company. Unusually,

her Scarlett escapes the traditional fate meted out to the uppity woman in the classic Hollywood narrative — restored to her "proper place" or punished for her transgressions by exclusion or death — or the conventional blockbuster happy ending. Instead, Mitchell offered an "open" conclusion — Rhett Butler leaves her, Scarlett plans her return to the family home of Tara — with its will-they-won't-they possibility of eventual reunion.

GWTW seems to have always been an almost covert female passion, like an addiction to chocolate. In the 1940s women went to see it in groups armed with sandwiches and flasks of tea. Many have named their children, pets, and houses, after characters and even houses from the film. (At the height of GWTW fever, American women dubbed their triplets *Gone, With and Wind*.) Thumbed copies passed between mother and daughter, neutral territory on which they could safely meet. To the first cohort of readers and viewers, suffering wartime privation, it offered compensating spectacle: Taylor received letter after letter from women of that generation who never forgot the scene where Tara's green velvet curtains were transformed into an outfit for Scarlett to seduce Rhett Butler into paying Tara's taxes.

But, as Taylor perceptively observes, GWTW differed from the traditional war epic in that it avoided sustained battle scenes. "Occupying centre stage in book

and film is the courage not of soldiers but of women... GWTW focuses on the war from the perspective of those left behind: women, children, the old and sick, the wounded and feckless. The romantic image of women in wartime passively waiting is, of course, debunked. The home front, far from being a place of passive endurance and anticipation, is a centre of activity, ingenuity, and creativity." In GWTW, women are forced to take control of all forms of social and economic life — an appealing fictional fantasy for the marginalised and excluded.

Taylor also reads in GWTW an obsessive concern with mothers and daughters: Scarlett's mother, the patient Ellen O'Hara, dies young, and the film's real maternal figures are Rhett Butler and Mammy. Butler, especially as played by Clark Gable, drew unanimous female adoration from Helen Taylor's correspondents. In addition to his mystery and sexual magnetism, Taylor notes his insight into female psychology, his ability to comfort and nurture women. And, along with most of the women who wrote to her, she argues that Rhett doesn't actually rape Scarlett, as some feminists have claimed, seeing it instead as an encounter of "mutually pleasurable rough sex."

The most unacceptable aspect of *Gone With The Wind* is its depiction of race. Like *Birth Of A Nation* (of which Mitchell was a fan), Southern blacks were de-

picted as simple-minded, happy darkies or threats to white women's sexual purity, which was defended by the Ku Klux Klan — prominent in the book, although never mentioned by name in the film, the decision of its liberal Jewish producer David Selznick.

Mammy is the ultimate Earth Mother, a constant source of comfort to Scarlett, with no apparent needs of her own. As Taylor puts it: "The best mother any girl could have, Mammy is intimately, constantly and self-abnegatingly concerned with her charges, never asks anything for herself, refuses to leave after Emancipation, never gets ill and does not die."

Hattie McDaniel, who played her and won the first Oscar given to a black actor, was not invited to the film's all-white premiere. Yet she defended the role, arguing that if she hadn't been playing a maid, and being paid handsomely for it, she would actually have been one. Butterfly McQueen, on the other hand, who played the stupid, squeaky Prissy, had had enough, and refused to repeat the dumb maid role, preferring occasionally to work as a maid.

Despite her rejection of the "moonlight, magnolia, and Mammy" postbellum novel idealising the Old South, Helen Taylor is frank about her own (changing) pleasure in GWTW. And despite its buckets of fantasy and racism, GWTW remains what one radical woman called her "private vice" — *The Guardian*.

Lambada: '89's sexy dance fad

By Mike Zwerin

PARIS — The rebirth of sensuality in the age of AIDS. The reconciliation of the couple. The first new dance since the Jerk.

The Lambada is all this and more according to its two dynamic producers.

Traditional folklore, a musical style, a dance, "Lambada" is also the song of the summer, and probably the French promotion of the year. Currently number one on the charts in France, a million copies of the single (as many as 45,000 a day) plus 400,000 of a compilation album have been sold since released — or unleashed — on June 21. There has been nothing like it in France since Madonna.

It originated in Porto Seguro with roots in northeastern Brazil, around Bahia in general. Lambada means round trip, to dance or hot loins, depending on which producer or periodical you believe — *Liberation*, *Télérama* and *Le Nouvel Observateur* (in a cover story) have all run multi-page features on the Lambada. This lighthearted Brazilian/Caribbean crossover principally combines the rumba and Trinidadian soca and includes elements to salsa, zouk and reggae, featuring horns, percussion, the occasional bandoneon or synthesiser, a vocal choir and sexy Portuguese lyrics. The dance consists of specific steps — a sort of tropical tango — by fondling couples with an accent on knees, which are often between the partner's thighs.

"It always comes back to desire," according to co-producer Olivier Lorsa. "You bring your partner in your arms, you embrace yourself, you embrace again. It's a dance of seduction. Originally it had been only for the lower classes — blacks, Indians, fishermen. At first, the bourgeoisie disapproved of its overt sensuality but there's been a feedback since our success in France. Now there are 'Lambadarios' in Sao Paulo and Rio where they dance only the Lambada. Brazilians are taking some pride in it. They see their culture being accepted in Europe."

"We are bringing desire back to the dance floor," adds his partner Jean Karakos. "It's the first new dance in 25 years, a throwback to the foxtrot and the lindy. People are touching each other again. Until now, teenagers were dancing the same dances as their parents. The Lambada gives them something of their own. Melting Pop."

Karakos, who describes himself as a "conceiver," began his career odd-jobbing remaindered discs in Toulon. In 1968, his BYG Records recorded 50 albums by Cecil Taylor, Sun Ra, Archie Shepp and other Afro-American players of so-called "free jazz," who were being pretty much ignored in their own country. Some of them complain that they weren't paid, but never mind, Karakos put them on the map. He started a jazz newsletter called *Actuel*, a descendant of which

is now a fat mass circulation monthly. He went bankrupt.

One decade later, Karakos surfaced in New York running Celluloid Records with an influential eclectic catalogue described at various times as including "progressive rap," "Afro-Austro-hiphop dub," "punk African rock" and "neo post-Aquarian jazz by graduates of the University of Applied Harmolodics." Karakos continued to spend a lot of money, much of it his own. "Some guys refuse to talk to me," he shrugs, "and others say they're looking for me. But I'm in the phone book and my conscience is clear. All I'm trying to do is make a living selling music I love."

After being a programme director for RTL, Lorsa produced more than 800 commercials employing such well-known directors as Bertrand Tavernier

and Claude Chabrol. He produced Jacques Doillon's feature film "La Priate," which was an official selection at the Cannes Film Festival. In 1987, gambling his entire stake on one deal of the cards, he co-wrote and directed "In Extremis," a cops and robbers thriller that flopped. Broke, he sublet his office and, in April 1988, went on vacation on Porto Seguro with his old pal Karakos.

These are people for whom the concept of "broke" is relative. Somehow seed money for a new fortune keeps sprouting, and there is always the time and

means to fuel up in Brazil after losing one. Last week they were working the phones facing each other over one small desk in a tiny office next to Lorsa's sumptuous apartment which he had bought in an expensive neighbourhood at the right time and rebuilt largely with his own hands. They thrive in the fast lane on the edge of financial disaster. They put their money and energy where their instincts are. Investment decisions are often irrational, based on love for the product. They play with money like jazz musicians with notes. They have

good ears, optimistic spirits and pale complexions.

Back in Porto Seguro in April last year, the two of them listened to Lambada tapes on the beach and danced the seductive dance in discotheques. They fell in love with it and decided to introduce it in France. "We knew we had a winning hand from the beginning," says Karakos.

Dealing the cards took a stake of \$300,000. Karakos bought the rights to 400 Lambada songs for \$150,000.

— International HeraldTribune.

CANADIAN EMBASSY

Annual Notice to Canadian Citizens Residing in Jordan

Canadian citizens residing in Jordan are invited to register with the Canadian Embassy Consular Section if they have not already done so. Those who have been registered for a year or more, who have not recently confirmed their continued presence in Jordan, are also invited to contact the Consular Section and communicate any change of address or telephone number.

Consular registration forms may be obtained in person or in writing. The embassy is located in the Shmeisani district and is open Sunday to Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The postal address is P.O. Box 815403. If you wish further information you may also phone 666-124/5/6.

AMBASSADE DU CANADA

Avis annuel aux ressortissants canadiens en Jordanie

Les citoyens canadiens résidant en Jordanie sont invités à s'inscrire à l'Ambassade du Canada s'ils ne l'ont pas déjà fait. Ceux qui sont inscrits depuis un an ou plus, qui n'ont pas confirmé tout récemment qu'ils résident toujours en Jordanie, sont aussi invités à communiquer avec la Section consulaire pour l'informer de tout changement d'adresse ou de téléphone.

Les formulaires d'inscription sont disponibles depuis l'ambassade. L'ambassade est située à Shmeisani et les heures de bureau sont de 8h00 à 16h00 du dimanche au jeudi. La boîte postale porte le No. 815403. On peut obtenir de plus amples renseignements en téléphonant au 666-124/5/6.

في الأمل

Iraq orders lower prices

BAGHDAD (AP) — The government is to cut prices of state-produced goods as well as items sold through its stores, a business weekly has reported.

Al Itihad, organ of the General Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry said that President Saddam Hussein's office ordered all state-run industrial and commercial enterprises as well as mixed-sector firms to reduce profits by five per cent, from 25 to 20 per cent, from January 1990.

The weekly said the price cuts will affect both locally produced and imported goods of all kinds. The heavier profit margin on imported goods will be cut to 25 per cent, for some items, it added. Public sector manufacturers

had been making substantial profits on sales in the past two years after the government permitted them to hike prices so that subsidies would no longer be needed. The government still subsidizes basic goods such as flour and cooking oil to the tune of 230 million dinars (\$736 million) a year.

The government in June froze prices of items produced or sold by state-run enterprises and also raised state employees' salaries by 25 dinars (\$80) a month. The pay hikes for more than two million civil servants, army and police officers will cost the

government an estimated 600 million dinars (\$1.8 billion) a year. State employees are also allowed to shop at special government-run stores with cheaper prices.

The average civil servant's salary is 150 dinars (\$480) a month. Private sector businessmen also were asked to freeze prices for an unspecified period in accordance with government efforts to curb soaring prices of goods and services.

A colour television produced by a state manufacturer now sells officially for around 250 dinars (\$800), up from 200 (\$660) one year ago. An air-cooler that sold for 70 dinars (\$224) a year ago now costs 85 (\$272).

But shortages mean that both items sell on the black market for more than double those prices.

Bailout of U.S. thrift industry may exceed \$50b

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government's heralded \$50 billion savings and loan bailout probably isn't large enough, federal regulators are indicating now after looking at new figures on the industry's health.

The nation's 2,934 savings and loan institutions lost \$3.7 billion in the April-June quarter, up from \$3.5 billion in the first three months of the year, the Office of Thrift Supervision said Tuesday. It was the biggest loss since the record \$4.1 billion loss in the second quarter in 1988.

The latest discouraging report came just two weeks after President George Bush signed legislation authorising a \$50 billion bailout to close or sell failed institutions over the next 26 months.

During the six months leading up to the bill's approval, administration officials repeatedly said they believed \$50 billion would be adequate, although they couldn't guarantee it.

Now, regulators' statements indicate that private analysts probably are right in predicting the administration will have to come back to Congress for more

money. David Cooke, executive director of the Resolution Trust Corp., the new agency charged with the cleanup, said Tuesday the \$50 billion won't cover much more than 500 failed savings and loans. The agency now has 264 insolvent institutions in its control after closing seven this month.

"If it gets up to 500, it will probably be awfully tight. I can tell you that," Cooke told reporters at a luncheon. "Our best hope is... (it will be) a little more than 400."

Meanwhile, James Barth, chief economist of the Office of Thrift Supervision, which regulates the industry, said at a news conference that he expects "upwards of 600" failed savings and loans will eventually be transferred from his jurisdiction to Cooke's agency.

Barth said 401 institutions already were insolvent at the end of June, up from 394 three months earlier.

"Are there circumstances under which the \$50 billion is enough?" Barth asked in a telephone interview. "It's possible under very favourable circumstances."

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Jordan moves to accelerate exports

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan is going ahead with plans to establish an export credit guarantee corporation which would boost national exports and enhance the national economy, according to the outcome of a meeting held at the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ). A statement following the meeting said that representatives from the ministries of industry and trade and planning and the Inter-Arab Investments Guarantee Corporation (IAIGC) met under the chairmanship of CBJ Governor Mohammad Said Al Nabulsi to discuss the project and to review a feasibility study on setting up such corporation. The CBJ together with the IAIGC and the United States Agency for International Development had worked out an initial study on the subject. The statement said that the feasibility study recommended the establishment of a corporation to guarantee credits for exports from Jordan. A corporation of this nature, the statement added, would develop national exports, encourage Jordanian producers to sell products and increase their competitiveness in foreign markets as well as earn hard currency for the Kingdom.

JCCC plans numerous fairs in Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Industry and Trade's Jordan Commercial Centres Corporation (JCCC) plans to set up a number of Jordanian industrial fairs in the Kingdom over the coming two years. A JCCC announcement said that the fairs, which will be set up in a number of areas, are designed to orient the public on Jordan's national products especially foodstuffs, Pharmaceuticals, clothes and textiles.

Jordan to attend Istanbul meeting

ISTANBUL (Petra) — Jordan along with five other Arab and Islamic countries will hold a meeting here early next month to discuss economic and trade matters of concern to the Arab and Islamic Worlds. The six countries are members of a Standing Committee on Economic Affairs set up by the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) to coordinate trade and economic activities among Arab and Islamic nations. The Istanbul gathering will be the second of its kind, following the Izmir meeting last year which paved the ground for the committee's work. The five other members on the committee are Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, Guinea and Palestine.

OPEC leaders to meet in Belgrade

BELGRADE (R) — Leaders of Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) will hold a meeting in Belgrade in September to coincide with the summit of non-aligned countries, Tanjug news agency said Tuesday. It said the meeting would be hosted by Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez.

FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT

Modern fully furnished in Abdoun near Jordan Supermarket. Three bedrooms, spacious kitchen, living room, dining room, two bathrooms, wall to wall carpet, two balconies, wall closets, storage space, separate heating system. First floor apartment overlooking Abdoun Valley with telephone and other extras such as pictures, lights and excellent finishing.

Call 604822.

2 LARGE "DELUXE APTS FOR RENT

Each consists of 3 bedrooms, 3 large salons, 2 bathrooms, 3 balconies, veranda and kitchen. Separate central heating and telephone line for each apartment. One with garden. Located near 3rd Circle in Jabal Amman, German Language Institute (Goethe Institute) Street.

To view, please call 644211

LOST TICKET

I, Hāmza S. Sadat, have lost my ticket. Anyone who finds it should please contact the nearest police station or call Tel. 675400.

FLAT FOR RENT IN ABDOUN

Furnished super deluxe flat, 190 sqm ground floor, consists of two bedrooms, verandas/maid room, large L-shaped salons/sitting and dining rooms including B&B, spacious kitchen, two bathrooms with TV/Video/Stereo with all electrical appliances including electrical shutters. Bar-B-Q, pitched garden and garage, separate telephone/water/heating and electricity. Next to Elia Nuqul Residence — Abdoun.

For more information please contact 614850.

DELUXE FURNISHED FLAT FOR RENT

2 bedrooms, 2 sitting rooms including a bar, television and video. Dining room, American kitchen, 2 bathrooms, telephone and central heating. Yearly rent: JD 4,000. Location: 7th Circle.

Please call 687823, 667042.

VACANCY

The Turath Handicraft Center in Jerash is in need for a female production manager to supervise the production of handmade rugs and embroidery with the following qualifications:

1. Minimum of 3 years experience in business skills and management preferably in the field of handicrafts.
2. Fluent in English speaking and writing abilities.
3. University degree in business management.

For interviews please call 601561 - 601721 (Catholic Relief Services)

Sydney warns Riyadh on live-sheep rejection

CANBERRA (R) — Australia has warned Saudi Arabia that its rejection of 300,000 live sheep on the grounds they were diseased could harm overall trading relations.

Trade Minister Michael Duffy called in the Saudi Ambassador to pass on a letter to Commerce Minister Salehman Abdul Aziz Al Salem describing the dispute as potentially very serious, an Australian government spokesman said.

Saudi Arabia takes half of Australia's live-sheep exports, a trade worth up to 105 million dollars (\$78 million) that farmers regard as a vital diversification from sales of frozen meat.

Australia has rejected Saudi findings that the sheep had blue tongue and sheep pox diseases, which are not present in commercial flocks in Australia, an Australian government spokesman said.

suspended live-sheep sales to Saudi Arabia and sent its ambassador back to Riyadh from holiday.

Australia's total exports to Saudi Arabia were worth 244 million dollars (\$185 million) in calendar 1988, with sheep the largest single item.

Saudi Arabian exports to Australia, mainly minerals, were worth 396 millions (\$300 million). An Australian delegation headed by a government veterinarian is touring Gulf states discussing the Saudi ban, but currently there are no talks going on with the Saudis.

Kuwait and Bahrain, which have taken some of the 300,000 unwanted sheep, are satisfied they do not bear the diseases, which are not present in commercial flocks in Australia, an Australian government spokesman said.

"We are very concerned about the situation," said a spokesman for the Australian Meat and Livestock Corporation.

However, Australian meat industry sources said they remain optimistic that the live-sheep trade with Saudi Arabia would resume in a couple of months.

They said Argentina, Uruguay and New Zealand could fill the gap left by Australia's suspension of trade, but only Australia could guarantee a long-term supply.

But they said, pending resolution of the dispute, Australia would have problems selling more live sheep to other states the Gulf as the trade had nearly reached the saturation point.

British trade deficit worsens

LONDON (R) — Britain's balance of payments deficit in July soared to £2.06 billion (\$3.25 billion), its second worst monthly figure, the government said Wednesday.

The deficit compared with a shortfall of £1.5 billion (\$2.5 billion) in June and its size surprised economic analysts who had forecast a slight month-on-month improvement.

The figure dealt a blow to government hopes that the trade deficit had taken a decisive downturn as a result of its regime of

high interest rates to cool the economy.

The Central Statistical Office said the deficit on trade alone was £2.6 billion (\$3.9 billion) but this was offset by a surplus of £400 million (\$630 million) on invisible items such as banking, insurance and tourism.

Britain recorded its worst current account deficit of £2.33 billion (\$3.7 billion) last October as a runaway consumer boom, which is only now beginning to wind down, sucked in imports. Although Britain's seaborne

trade was affected by a three-week dock strike in July, the government said there was no single reason for the jump in the deficit.

Imports increased by four per cent while exports rose two per cent.

Imports in July included a influx of cars ready for the start of the new registration year in August when sales reach the annual peak.

The opposition Labour Party greeted the deterioration in the deficit with dismay.

British, U.S. investors buy stake in Mexicana De Aviacion

MEXICO CITY (AP) — A partnership that includes British investor Sir James Goldsmith and a Mexican investor group are jointly buying 25 per cent of Mexico's state-run airline, Mexicana De Aviacion, the government has announced.

The foreign partners, which include Chase Manhattan Bank

of New York and Drexel Burnham Lambert Inc., are pumping in slightly less than half of the \$140 million total investment, with the private Mexican investors adding the rest, officials said Tuesday.

"So the airline can face its necessities in the future, it will need, as does the rest of the sector, significant investment," Jacques Rogozinski, head of the finance ministry advisory council, said at a news conference.

Rogozinski said that within the next two weeks, the government will release more specific details of the deal. He emphasised that the \$140 million is made up of fresh capital, none of it "swaps" for Mexican debt owed to foreign creditors.

Mexicana has been plagued by cash-flow problems related to its debt, which totaled \$253.6 million at the end of 1988.

The federal government, which now owns 51 per cent of the airline, will own 40.05 per cent under the new plan. Current private investors will own a maximum of 34.95 per cent.

Mexicana posted a profit of

\$136.3 million last year on revenues of \$753.2 million. Total capitalisation of Mexicana will be \$550 million.

The government envisions an investment of more than \$3 billion in the airline over the next 10 years and adding 21,500 employees to the airline's current 14,000 workers, Rogozinski said. He said in the future, the government share of the airline will steadily decrease, perhaps to nothing.

The Mexican government, saddled with the second-highest foreign debt among developing countries, \$107.4 billion, has liberalised rules governing foreign investment to attract additional capital.

Goldsmith is one of Britain's wealthiest investors. He currently is involved with a group that has launched a hostile takeover of BAT Industries PLC, a British tobacco-retailing insurance conglomerate.

In the past, he has taken control of Crown Zellerbach Corp. and Diamond International among others. We also attempted to take over Goodyear Tire.

MANY VILLAS AND APARTMENTS FOR RENT & SALE

Furnished or Unfurnished

In Shmeisani, Sweifiah, Abdoun and many other locations.

For more information please call

Wael Real Estate

Tel: 685342

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Wednesday, August 23, 1989
Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell
U.S. dollar	597.9	603.9
French Franc	947.2	952.7
Deutschmark	307.7	310.5
Swiss franc	356.8	360.4
French franc	91.2	91.1
Japanese yen (for 100)	419.4	423.6
Dutch guilder	273.6	275.8
Swedish crown	50.8	51.7
Italian Lira (for 100)	43.0	43.4
Belgian franc (for 10)	147.1	148.6

TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

A Jordanian Institution, working in the Agricultural Sector has training vacancies for a limited number of young Agric. Engineers or Agric. Technicians under 25 years of age.

Applicants must have practical experience in Crop Production and/or Agric. Mechanization and must have a good command of the English language.

The training offered is challenging. If interested, please send your curriculum vitae to the following address:

Director Personnel Affairs
P.O. Box 926238
Amman - Jordan

AVAILABLE VACANT POSITIONS

For women to work for a tourist office as marketing representatives outside the office and at their free time for four hours daily in unspecified periods during the day.

Tempting salaries with rewarding commission.

Preference will be given to candidates who own cars and are fluent in any foreign language. Those with previous experience in this field or have desire for this kind of work.

Write to P.O. box 7916 Amman, give your telephone number.

COWBOY NIGHT

FOR RESERVATIONS PLEASE CALL 663100 EXT 113

Membership At The Club

1 Month Free

"Le Relais"

Dinner For 2 At

For 2 in Aqaba

A Week-End

OF PRIZES:

LOTS

Etc...

Ticket Drawing

Best Costume

Apple Eating

Tug-of-War

Arm Wrestling

Darts

Drinking

CONTESTS

GAMES

DELICIOUS BBQ

RIBS - BURGERS

STEAKS - CHILI

CINAMON APPLE PIE

AND MUCH MORE

SEE YOU AT THE POOLSIDE

THURSDAY 24th of AUGUST

8:00 TILL 12:00

ONLY 8 JD

* 10% GOV. TAX

As of tonight and until the evening of Sept. 1, 1989... you have a date with a surprise at



The EDDY. C. International Show Band which arrived Sunday Aug. 20

Show star Munich beauty queen for 1988

SUZU

one of the most famous European singer groups and the star of the German theatres

REINIER

who will present a collection of best and most famous songs of

★ Tom Jones ★ Elvis Presley ★ Frank Sinatra

In addition to:

★ Laser beam shows ★ The robot

Tickets at JD 2 only

For children, JD 1 and children below seven: Free

Location: The Amman International Motor Show exhibition halls four kilometres away from the Seventh Circle, Jabal Amman.

Show opens at 7:00 p.m.

Call Tel. 714211 for more information.

Cinema **CONCORD** Tel: 677428

Kevin Costner
Susan Sarandon
BULL DURHAM

Show: 3:30, 5:15, 8:30, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema **ATLANTIC** Tel: 675571

Tom Cruise
in
COCKTAIL

5 shows daily
12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema **PLAZA** Tel: 677420

THE BEACH GIRLS

12:30 - 3:30 - 6:30 - 8:30 - 10:30

امان 150

Dos Santos slams support for Savimbi, questions his credibility

HARARE (R) — Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos accused South Africa and the United States Wednesday of continuing to arm UNITA rebels and said their leader Jonas Savimbi would lose all credibility if he reneged on a nine-week-old peace agreement.

Dos Santos, commenting on an apparent deadlock in a Zairean-brokered initiative to end Angola's 14-year-old civil war, told reporters in Harare that Savimbi was still trying to achieve his political ambitions with the help of Pretoria and Washington.

He said these traditional allies of UNITA (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) continued to arm the rebels despite the current peace initia-

tive and accords signed by Angola, Cuba and South Africa in December.

"We are involved in a process of peace... supplying arms does not help that process," Dos Santos said.

The Angolan leader attended a summit in Harare Tuesday of eight African presidents who reaffirmed their support for the main points of a peace plan for Angola announced at a historic June 22 meeting between Dos Santos and Savimbi in Gbadolite, Zaire.

Dos Santos said Savimbi had agreed to cooperate with the peace plan which foresaw a ceasefire, temporary and voluntary exile for Savimbi and the integration of UNITA members into the

existing government, army and other institutions.

But the UNITA leader has subsequently demanded the formation of a coalition government and free elections. Angola's government says UNITA has committed dozens of violations of the ceasefire that began June 24.

"If he (Savimbi) now rejects what he previously accepted, what credibility can he have to continue talking, what confidence can he inspire in us? ...none," Dos Santos said.

More Angolans had died in fighting since the June 24 ceasefire than in the previous part of the year, he added.

He hoped the UNITA leader would "return to reason" by the time the presidents of Zaire,

Zambia, Angola, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Gabon, Congo and Sao Tome and Principe met again in Kinshasa Sept. 18 to review the peace process.

The Angolan president said Savimbi and his UNITA movement were "a destabilising factor not only in Angola but regionally."

He said the peace accords signed by South Africa, Angola and Cuba in New York in December included a pledge by Pretoria to stop helping UNITA and an end to hostilities against Cuban troops in Angola.

Dos Santos said a UNITA attack Aug. 14 which killed six Cuban soldiers was a serious violation of the New York accords.

U.S. sends 'most wanted list' of druglords to Colombia

WASHINGTON (R) — In the first test of the Colombian government's new emergency plan to extradite major drug figures, the United States has asked Colombia to hand over 12 accused cocaine barons so they can stand trial.

Attorney General Dick Thornburgh, the nation's top law enforcement officer, said in a statement Tuesday he was furnishing to the Bogota government a "dozen most wanted list" of major drug traffickers facing charges in the United States.

His announcement puts more pressure on the government under President Virgilio Barco, who reinstated the extradition treaty with the United States as part of the emergency measures to fight the cocaine leaders.

More than 10,000 people have been arrested so far as part of the nationwide crackdown, but none of those taken into custody were on the "most wanted list."

"Facing trial in the United States is what these drug lords fear the most. This list of a dozen priority offenders is only the first phase of our extradition efforts," he said.

The Medellin and the rival Cali

cartels of Colombia are thought to be responsible for smuggling 80 per cent of the cocaine into the United States.

Thornburgh acknowledged that Washington does not know the whereabouts of the 12, who are wanted drug trafficking charges.

He said the traffickers, who own large fleets of airplanes and boats, may already have left Colombia. "These drug kingpins have the means to flee to any corner of the globe," he said.

Thornburgh urged other countries to join in a worldwide manhunt to track down the Colombians and said their names were being given to Interpol, the international police agency.

Colombia has said it did not need U.S. troops to fight drug traffickers as it moved to seal off possible escape routes for anyone seeking to flee a nationwide crackdown on the drug trade.

A Bogota Foreign Ministry source said Tuesday that Colombia had launched a joint operation along its frontiers with Brazil, Peru, Ecuador and Venezuela, especially in the Amazon region and other sparsely populated areas, to tighten border

surveillance.

A U.S. anti-narcotics expert said some traffickers may already have fled across the borders since Barco launched his crackdown on ruthless drug barons, however.

The only neighbour with which Colombia has not taken joint action to prevent traffickers fleeing was Panama, the Foreign Ministry source said.

Panama is where they "have some friends," the U.S. expert said in an apparent reference to the country's de facto ruler, General Manuel Antonio Noriega, who was indicted on U.S. drug and racketeering charges in February 1988.

Despite close collaboration between the U.S. and Colombia in the crackdown on traffickers, Barco's government has insisted that it does not need and would not accept the help of U.S. troops.

Foreign Minister Julio Londoño said in a radio interview Tuesday that President George Bush called Barco Monday to offer increased U.S. cooperation.

Londoño said Barco told Bush that Colombia "in no way needed nor accepted the shipment of U.S. troops."

Prague blames foreigners for 1968 invasion protests

PRAGUE, Czechoslovakia (AP) — State-run media Tuesday blamed foreigners visiting under the "guise of tourism" for stirring up protests by thousands on the 21st anniversary of the 1968 invasion of Czechoslovakia.

Authorities said 370 people including 50 foreigners, were detained.

By evening, there was still no word on the fate of Hungarians, Poles and Italians arrested when hundreds of riot police wielding truncheons broke up crowds demanding freedom and withdrawal of Soviet troops who crushed communist reform 21 years ago.

Hungarian Consul Lajos Taba said his embassy received telephone calls indicating nine Hungarians were detained. Polish press attache Krzysztof Opalski said he heard on state radio three Poles were held, but that Czechoslovak Foreign Ministry had given his embassy no official word on detentions.

Extra police remained on patrol Tuesday in Wenceslas Square, watching closely bystanders and some Western journalists. A folk group and brass band played on the spot where Monday's protests erupted.

Prague Radio asserted that

1,000 Italians and 3,000 Polish Solidarity activists had come to the capital under what it termed "tourism in disguise" to stir up the demonstrations.

"The provocation was brought about by those who travelled under the guise of tourism," said a similar television commentary. "They came here to give us advice. Nobody likes this and we the Czechoslovaks are no exception."

The commentaries were an apparent attempt by Czechoslovakia's entrenched communist leaders to ignore domestic pressure for reform and depict such pressure as the work of outsiders.

The authorities and media had campaigned for weeks prior to the anniversary against independent groups and warned several times that force would be used if necessary to break up protests.

Police have cracked down hard on independent activists in recent weeks, harassing several and cutting their telephones. Charter 77 spokeswoman Dana Nemcova said Tuesday dozens were put in preventive detention during the weekend.

Some of those were free Tuesday, but others were still unaccounted for, said Nemcova,

who with her activist son David was under house arrest from early Sunday until late Monday night.

Many other leading activists were warned to stay out of Prague and other big cities. Some including prominent human rights campaigner Václav Havel, issued appeals against street protests, fearing they would lead to unnecessary bloodshed.

Their firm handling of Monday's demonstration won them praise Tuesday from Politburo member Miroslav Stepan, the evening daily Vecerni Praha said.

But police attacks on some Western journalists drew strong criticism abroad.

Austrian Foreign Minister Alois Mock condemned what he termed the "aggressive behaviour" of the police, who detained two Austrian cameramen, sliced their camera cable with a knife and delivered what a correspondent said was a karate blow to one of the crew.

Italy delivered a strong protest over the rough handling of two Italian journalists, a cameraman and a freelance television man, who the Italian television channel Rai Due said were punched by plainclothes men who also damaged their cameras.

Forbes Tangier shindig — \$3m extravaganza or just business?

NEW YORK (AP) — Wealthy publisher Malcolm Forbes is being vague about whether he plans to seek a tax write-off for his Moroccan "party of the century," but opponents of a tax break are indignant at the idea of it.

"If this party were to be tax-deductible it would be a perfect example of the (U.S.) tax system is unfair to the average citizen and benefits the rich," said Michael Waldman, director of Public Citizens' Congress Watch, a consumer rights group based in Washington D.C.

The magazine publisher's 70th birthday party in Tangier on the northern coast of Africa last weekend featured 600 belly dancers, 200 berber horsemen, pigeon pie served under elaborate tents and a guest list that included Liz Taylor, Henry Kissinger, Walter Cronkite, Lee Iacocca, Rupert Murdoch, Barbara Walters, Beverly Sills and Donald Trump.

Guests were flown across the Atlantic on three jets, including a chartered supersonic Concorde. The cost of the party has been estimated at \$2 million to \$3 million.

U.S. Congressman Fortney "Pete" Stark released a letter to Internal Revenue Service (IRS) commissioner Fred T. Goldberg Tuesday saying he hopes the party is not tax-deductible.

"The public's support of the tax system is destroyed by reports of tax-deductible birthday bashes by belly-dancing billionaires," he wrote.

Forbes Magazine officials failed to return repeated phone calls Tuesday seeking comment. The Washington Post newspaper Monday quoted Forbes as saying that "some of it is a business expense."

"When you invite 300 CEOs that you do business with, you want to make a good impression," Malcolm Forbes Jr., who is the publisher's eldest son and the maga-

zine's president, told the New York Times.

He said any deduction would be worked out by company accountants, the Times reported Monday.

The IRS declined to comment on whether the cost of the party could be deducted from Forbes' taxes, but a spokesman pointed to pertinent sections of the U.S. tax code.

Section 262 says that aside from a small exception involving telephones, "no deduction shall be allowed for personal, living or family expenses."

The IRS generally considers birthday parties to be personal expenses, said Sid Weinman, an attorney and senior editor of Federal Tax Coordinator, published in New York by Research Institute of America.

Section 274 says no deduction is allowed "with respect to an activity which is of a type generally considered to constitute entertainment, amusement, or recrea-

AFRICAN SUMMIT: Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak (left), current chairman of the Organization of African Unity, with President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe (centre) and Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda at this week's OAU summit in Harare which sought to salvage the peace accord between the Angolan government and UNITA rebels.

Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda at this week's OAU summit in Harare which sought to salvage the peace accord between the Angolan government and UNITA rebels.

Killings have become an everyday affair in violence-hit Sri Lanka that even a dead body lying in the middle of the street fails to evoke alarm

Sri Lanka violence unabated

COLOMBO (R) — At least 70 Sri Lankans were killed in 24 hours ending Wednesday and many of their bodies were found charred beyond recognition, dumped in pits or at the roadside, military sources said Wednesday.

The death toll marked a sharp increase on previous average daily killings reported by the military and suggested further intensification of the war between the government and leftwing Sinhalese rebels.

The sources and citizens said 40 bodies of unidentified people, some burned, were found in various areas late Tuesday and 17 bodies were found on the roadside in the western Gampaha district.

In a previously reported incident within the same period, 10 other bodies, again mostly charred, were found in a pit at Athurugiriya just south of Colombo Tuesday.

The military sources could not say who was responsible. Opposition politicians have blamed similar killings on pro-government groups they say are hunting members and supporters of the People's Liberation Front with the help of servicemen.

The military has been reporting an average of over 20 killings daily in violence connected to the front.

Police said seven of their men and a civilian driver were killed in a front ambush at Matugama in

the south Wednesday. Six soldiers died in a similar attack Tuesday.

The front, a Sinhalese group trying to oust the government in a two-year campaign, was also blamed by the military for most of the other killings reported in the past 24 hours.

The rebel campaign has crippled government rule in several areas and hit commercial activity.

Security forces last week stepped up operations against the rebels and detained more than 2,500 people in sweeps of areas where they are believed to be active.

The searches are continuing although security sources say many suspects have been released after questioning.

Phnom Penh makes peace plan concession

PARIS (R) — After rejecting a Franco-Indonesian peace plan for Cambodia, the Phnom Penh government has made a significant concession to resistance demands with its own counter-proposals.

At an international conference in Paris Tuesday night, the Phnom Penh delegation proposed that free elections be held in Cambodia six months after the signing of a ceasefire accord, doubling the time it was prepared to wait before a vote.

Deputy Foreign Minister Sok An said after presenting the proposals to the conference it was the first time the Cambodian government had agreed to wait six months before holding polls.

Prime Minister Hun Sen has previously insisted polls be held three months after the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops at the end of the September, the date Phnom Penh has set for a ceasefire after 10 years of guerrilla war.

The three resistance factions led by Prince Norodom Sihanouk say three months would not be enough to organise free elections.

Sok An said the concession was a significant one on the part of his government, which reckons it would win 80 per cent of the vote in a free election.

It appeared unlikely, however, that it would be enough to secure an accord at the deadlocked conference before it ends next week. Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and U.S. Secretary of State James Baker are among the ministers due to attend the closing session.

The talks have been stymied since the end of July by Hun Sen's insistence on running the country until elections are held and by the demands of the radical Khmer Rouge guerrillas for a role in a quadripartite administration.

"It does not depend on us alone, it depends also on the other side. If they remain rigid, I don't know if we can reach a

solution," Sok An said.

The Khmer Rouge are blamed for over a million deaths during their four-year rule in Cambodia from 1975-79. Vietnam, which swept them from power, is due to withdraw the last of its troops from the country by Sept. 26.

Sok An presented the plan at a meeting of the so-called "ad hoc" committee, made up of the Cambodian factions and the conference's co-presidents, France and Indonesia.

The committee met to discuss an earlier Franco-Indonesian plan for a three-tiered interim administration.

Under the plan resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk would become head of state with full powers over foreign policy and defence.

He would also preside over a "council of state" made up of representatives of the four factions, which would organise free elections within a year of a ceasefire.

COLUMN

Greek hunter takes bottom line

ATHENS (R) — A Greek hunter looking for foxes shot two farmers in the buttocks when he mistook them for his quarry, police said Tuesday. Stavros Karakostas, 42, who went hunting near the northern town of Larissa, was quoted by Police as saying: "I heard a noise and thought it was a fox which I shot twice. Then I heard a man crying from pain and realised my tragic mistake." Both farmers were taken to hospital for treatment.

Royal letter writer returns to sea

LONDON (AP) — Royal letter writer Timothy Laurence, whose station letters to Princess Anne sparked new rumours of trouble in her marriage, is to leave Buckingham Palace to become commander of a frigate, the defence ministry said Wednesday. Laurence, 35, will leave the palace next month, attend a course for shore-based officers returning to sea and take command of the frigate HMS Boxer Jan. 30, the ministry said in a statement. He has been an aide to Anne's mother, Queen Elizabeth II, the past three years. He also holds the rank of a royal navy commander. The Sun newspaper reported April 6 that it had been given four letters written to the 36-year-old princess by a man it did not identify. The paper did not disclose the contents of the stolen letters but said it had passed them to the police. On April 8, Buckingham Palace identified Laurence as the writer in a bid to stop intense news media speculation.

Lowe talks about his 'mistake'

NEW YORK (AP) — Actor Rob Lowe says there is nothing wrong with his ethics, but he admits he made a mistake when he videotaped a sex encounter with two young women during last year's Democratic National Convention in Atlanta. "I could be the poster boy for bad judgment," the actor said in a television interview to be broadcast Wednesday. "I'm not making excuses for myself. I'm a man and I stand up to mistakes I've made," he said. "This is, I knew it immediately after making the mistake." Lowe, interviewed on the Los Angeles set of his new movie, "Bad Influence," said he knew the story would surface eventually. "I knew that any day I could pick up the paper and, theoretically, see my picture on the front page. It was no fun, believe me, and it was very stressful. It still is," he said. Lowe has agreed to perform 20 hours of community service to avoid prosecution for allegedly seducing one of the women, Jan Parsons, who was 16 at the time. A suit against Lowe filed by the girl's mother is pending.

Beatles tapes flop at auction

LONDON (AP) — Three tapes recorded by the Beatles were snubbed by bidders Tuesday, though John Lennon's sunglasses and a pair of high heels worn by Marilyn Monroe in "Some Like It Hot" fetched higher-than-expected prices. Two other tapes, in which the Beatles sang and read from the Bible, were sold for £11,770 (\$18,700) for the pair to a private German buyer who bid by telephone. The auctioneer, Sotheby's, had set minimum prices of £10,000 (\$16,000) each for two of the unsold tapes and a minimum of £15,000 (\$24,000) for the third. The disappointed owner of the tapes, former Beatles' chauffeur Alf Bicknell, said he may put them back in the shed where they were kept since 1966.

Global weather

(major world cities)

	REL.	°C	°F	WIND
AMSTERDAM	12	24	19	60 Clear
ATHENS	22	72	85	65 Clear
BAHRAIN	30	86	104	60 Clear
BANGKOK	26	79	94	85 Clear
Buenos Aires	06	43	10	30 Rain
CAIRO	21	70	34	65 Clear
CHICAGO	22	71	29	65 Clear
COPENHAGEN	14	57	32	72 Clear
FRANKFURT	17	63	30	68 Clear
GENOVA	18	61	22	65 Cloudy
HONG KONG	25	77	28	62 Cloudy
ISTANBUL	22	72	32	80 Clear
LONDON	14	57	24	75 Clear
LOS ANGELES	16	60	22	72 Clear
MADRID	24	75	34	68 Clear
MEXICO	25	84	40	104 Clear
MONTREAL	13	56	23	73 Cloudy
MOSCOW	09	48	22	72 Clear
NEW DELHI	25	77	31	88 Cloudy
NEW YORK	21	68	29	84 Clear
PARIS	15	59	25	78 Clear
ROME	18	64	25	75 Clear
SYDNEY	06	46	47	53 Rain
TOKYO	25	77	31	88 Clear
VIENNA	19	65	30	86 Clear

15 أغسطس 1990